

40,000 attend Irbid rally

IRBID (Petra) — More than 40,000 people took part in a public rally organised by the Muslim Brotherhood office in the city of Irbid, Friday to voice support for the Palestinian uprising. Several Muslim Brotherhood deputies delivered speeches reviewing the current situation in the Arab World. Deputy Ahmad Al Kofahi called the Muslims to abide by the "rule of Islam and become strong." He called on citizens to support the intifada, "which it embodies the meaning of jihad." He said the Islamic movement in Jordan has formed several committees for supporting the intifada. Deputy Yousef Al Azem said the U.S. "aims at undermining the Islamic Nations" position because it views it as a danger that threatens its interests. He said the Islamic "revival represented in the Palestinian uprising against Israel practices was a source of worry for the foreign powers." Deputy Abdul Mun'im Abu Zani hailed the united Jordanian-Palestinian stand and denounced the U.S. and its allies' attempts to dominate Arab and Islamic lands. Deputy Abdul Rahim Al Ukoor reviewed the Islamic movement's activities in Irbid for supporting the intifada.

Rocard: All resolutions on Mideast should be implemented

PARIS (Agencies) — French Prime Minister Michel Rocard has said that the international community did not show the same enthusiasm in implementing U.N. Security Council resolutions on the Palestinian problem as they are doing in the Gulf affair. "The Palestinian issue represents a wound for the Arabs, and in this problem as in the Kuwait one the Security Council adopted resolutions and we should be brave to say that the international community did not show the same enthusiasm in implementing these resolutions, or those concerning the Lebanese crisis," Rocard said. Rocard, addressing an election rally in Paris, said that the Gulf crisis "is a conflict between right and power, between freedom and blackmail and between the international community and the will of power."

Kaifu begins U.S. and Mideast tour

TOKYO (R) — Japanese Prime Minister Toshiki Kaifu left for New York Friday to attend a special session of the United Nations on children followed by a week-long tour of five Middle East countries. While in New York, Kaifu will meet U.S. President George Bush and British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher. Kaifu will be armed with \$4 billion aid package for the Middle East, half to the multinational forces in the Gulf and the rest to frontline states affected by United Nations sanctions against Iraq.

Palestinian Baathists break away from Syria

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM (R) — Syria's stand against Iraq in the Gulf crisis has prompted Palestinian members of the Baath party in the Israeli-occupied territories to distance themselves from Damascus. Trade unionists affiliated with the small Baath Party in the West Bank Thursday condemned Syria's despatch of troops to Saudi Arabia and announced a merger with a group which is a Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) powerbase in the occupied territories. "We declare support for the unification of the Palestinian labour movement in the occupied territories where our block can play its role within the general federation of trade unions in the West Bank," said Jamal Bustami, head of the Al Taleah (Vanguard) trade union bloc.

'Oldest well' found near Halfa

TEL AVIV (R) — Archaeologists excavating a Stone Age village off the Israel coast have found an 8,000-year-old freshwater well believed to be the world's oldest. Newspapers Friday quoted Ehud Galili, the government official heading the project, as saying the well was 1,000 years more ancient than the previously oldest known well in Turkey. The well was found 400 metres off the coast south of Haifa. Galili said it indicated the Stone Age dwellers had a relatively advanced understanding of water resources and how to tap them. He said villagers turned the well into a rubbish dump after melting ice caps raised the sea level and made the water salty.

Ex-head of Tunisian security arrested

TUNIS (R) — The former head of Tunisia's security service, Mohammad Larbi Mahjoubi, has been arrested for allegedly misusing his power, an official source said Friday. The source said Mahjoubi was arrested last Sunday but denied a magazine report that he had links to Israel's Mossad intelligence service. Mossad was blamed for assassinating Palestinian leader Abu Jihad in Tunis in April 1988. Mahjoubi, head of counter-intelligence at that time, had a home opposite Abu Jihad's forces' hasty departure to take up

Volume 15 Number 4507 AMMAN SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 29, 1990, RABIA AWWAL 10, 1411

Price: Jordan 100 fils; Saudi Arabia 1.50 riyals; UAE 1.50 dirhams

Jordan Times

An independent Arab political daily published by the Jordan Times Foundation
جordan Times Foundation



Moscow, Manama restore ties

UNITED NATIONS (R) — The Soviet Union Friday established diplomatic relations with Bahrain, the only state in the Gulf region with which Moscow did not have formal ties, a Soviet official said. Moscow resumed relations with Saudi Arabia last week after 52 years. A communiqué released by the Soviet mission to the United Nations said the Soviet Union and Bahrain "proceeding from their mutual desire to develop friendship and cooperation for the benefit of the people of the two states decided to establish on Sept. 28, 1990, diplomatic relations between them and to exchange diplomatic representatives at the ambassadorial level." It said that both countries agreed that relations would be based on principles of "peaceful coexistence, equality and mutual respect for sovereignty and territorial integrity and non-interference by either country in the internal affairs of the other." In an oblique mention of the Gulf crisis the two states said they shared objectives of "promoting regional and international security." The decision was taken in New York by Soviet Foreign Minister Edward Shevardnadze and his Bahraini counterpart, Sheikh Mohammad Ben Mubarak Al Khalifa.

Baghdad issues dire warning of 'coming fire'

Soviets warn of 'world war'

Soviet defence chief sees Iran joining Iraq
Shevardnadze says use of force catastrophic

'Saleh plans initiative'

AMMAN (J.T.) — Yemeni President Ali Abdullah Saleh Friday said Yemen will launch an initiative that will be presented to the U.N. Security Council to solve the Gulf crisis. Jordan television reported Friday: "Some sources said this initiative is based in Iraq's withdrawal from Kuwait, the pullout of foreign troops from the region and lifting the sanctions imposed on Iraq," the television said. The report was unsourced and no further detail was available on the initiative.

United Nations General Assembly Tuesday that the U.N. would

use powers to "suppress aggression" unless it withdrew from Kuwait.

Moscow, a former key ally of Iraq, backs U.N. sanctions imposed on Iraq over the invasion but has not joined the military buildup in the Gulf.

Shevardnadze told the newspaper that foreign troops would withdraw from the Gulf if Iraq pulled out of Kuwait.

Iran-Iraq 'alliance'

The Soviet armed forces chief of staff said in an interview published Friday that a military conflict in the Gulf would see Iran allying with Iraq and could develop into a world war.

"In case of some military actions, Iran will join the Iraqi side," General Mikhail Moiseyev was quoted as telling the

Washington Post in Moscow. "This would not be simply some kind of conflict, this would be a world war."

The Post said Moiseyev did not elaborate on why he thought Iran and Iraq, which fought a war from 1980 to 1988, might join sides.

The Post said he indicated concern that a war beginning with small and seemingly remote events might trigger a much wider conflict.

"The First World War in 1914 also started because of some minor thing," he was quoted as saying. "Today we should do our utmost to avoid that."

Moiseyev, who was speaking shortly before leaving for a tour of U.S. military facilities, was quoted as saying he had given technical information to the U.S.

(Continued on page 5)

Israelis raze Bureij homes and shops, maintain siege

Yemen seeks U.N. meeting

UNITED NATIONS (R) — Yemen, in a letter circulated Friday, asked for an urgent Security Council meeting on the "current situation in the occupied Palestinian territory."

It gave no details. Council sources said they did not expect a meeting before next week.

The army ordered the demolition of the 33 shops and houses on both sides of the site where the killing took place. Officials contended the demolitions were not meant as punishment but to improve "security" in the camp.

The army announced, meanwhile, that Palestinians would be blocked from leaving or entering the Gaza Strip and West Bank on Yom Kippur, the Jewish day of atonement. It said roads into Israel would be closed from Friday afternoon to Saturday night.

During the army-escorted tour of Bureij, reporters were not allowed to speak to people in the camp. The 20,000 residents were confined to their homes by an army curfew in force for the eighth consecutive day.

The newly widened road was swept clean, and there was no sign of the rubble from the demolished stores and houses. The women in could be seen peering from behind a curtain.

Shmuel Zucker, the army's Gaza commander, told reporters: "We are now standing in the same place where the soldier was

killed. This street was source of trouble. We pulled down 26 shops and seven houses to make the street wider and more secure."

Zucker said "dozens" have been arrested in the case, but declined to give a specific figure.

An Israeli-Arab parliament member, Mohammad Miri, who was on a separate tour of the camp, criticised the army's action.

The mass demolitions, he said, "can only worsen things between Jews and Arabs."

A statement issued Thursday in Jerusalem by the Arab Journalists Association criticised the demolitions as "irrational and brutal."

It added: "We... denounce these measures and the iron fist policy which is being practiced against innocent people."

Meanwhile, a leaflet from the Islamic fundamentalist Hamas movement declared its solidarity with the camp's residents and criticised "the Zionist invaders

The mass demolitions, he said, "can only worsen things between Jews and Arabs."

A statement issued Thursday in Jerusalem by the Arab Journalists Association criticised the demolitions as "irrational and brutal."

It added: "We... denounce these measures and the iron fist policy which is being practiced against innocent people."

Meanwhile, a leaflet from the Islamic fundamentalist Hamas movement declared its solidarity with the camp's residents and criticised "the Zionist invaders

The mass demolitions, he said, "can only worsen things between Jews and Arabs."

A statement issued Thursday in Jerusalem by the Arab Journalists Association criticised the demolitions as "irrational and brutal."

It added: "We... denounce these measures and the iron fist policy which is being practiced against innocent people."

Meanwhile, a leaflet from the Islamic fundamentalist Hamas movement declared its solidarity with the camp's residents and criticised "the Zionist invaders

The mass demolitions, he said, "can only worsen things between Jews and Arabs."

A statement issued Thursday in Jerusalem by the Arab Journalists Association criticised the demolitions as "irrational and brutal."

It added: "We... denounce these measures and the iron fist policy which is being practiced against innocent people."

Meanwhile, a leaflet from the Islamic fundamentalist Hamas movement declared its solidarity with the camp's residents and criticised "the Zionist invaders

The mass demolitions, he said, "can only worsen things between Jews and Arabs."

A statement issued Thursday in Jerusalem by the Arab Journalists Association criticised the demolitions as "irrational and brutal."

It added: "We... denounce these measures and the iron fist policy which is being practiced against innocent people."

Meanwhile, a leaflet from the Islamic fundamentalist Hamas movement declared its solidarity with the camp's residents and criticised "the Zionist invaders

The mass demolitions, he said, "can only worsen things between Jews and Arabs."

A statement issued Thursday in Jerusalem by the Arab Journalists Association criticised the demolitions as "irrational and brutal."

It added: "We... denounce these measures and the iron fist policy which is being practiced against innocent people."

Meanwhile, a leaflet from the Islamic fundamentalist Hamas movement declared its solidarity with the camp's residents and criticised "the Zionist invaders

The mass demolitions, he said, "can only worsen things between Jews and Arabs."

A statement issued Thursday in Jerusalem by the Arab Journalists Association criticised the demolitions as "irrational and brutal."

It added: "We... denounce these measures and the iron fist policy which is being practiced against innocent people."

Meanwhile, a leaflet from the Islamic fundamentalist Hamas movement declared its solidarity with the camp's residents and criticised "the Zionist invaders

The mass demolitions, he said, "can only worsen things between Jews and Arabs."

A statement issued Thursday in Jerusalem by the Arab Journalists Association criticised the demolitions as "irrational and brutal."

It added: "We... denounce these measures and the iron fist policy which is being practiced against innocent people."

Meanwhile, a leaflet from the Islamic fundamentalist Hamas movement declared its solidarity with the camp's residents and criticised "the Zionist invaders

The mass demolitions, he said, "can only worsen things between Jews and Arabs."

A statement issued Thursday in Jerusalem by the Arab Journalists Association criticised the demolitions as "irrational and brutal."

It added: "We... denounce these measures and the iron fist policy which is being practiced against innocent people."

Meanwhile, a leaflet from the Islamic fundamentalist Hamas movement declared its solidarity with the camp's residents and criticised "the Zionist invaders

The mass demolitions, he said, "can only worsen things between Jews and Arabs."

A statement issued Thursday in Jerusalem by the Arab Journalists Association criticised the demolitions as "irrational and brutal."

It added: "We... denounce these measures and the iron fist policy which is being practiced against innocent people."

Meanwhile, a leaflet from the Islamic fundamentalist Hamas movement declared its solidarity with the camp's residents and criticised "the Zionist invaders

The mass demolitions, he said, "can only worsen things between Jews and Arabs."

A statement issued Thursday in Jerusalem by the Arab Journalists Association criticised the demolitions as "irrational and brutal."

It added: "We... denounce these measures and the iron fist policy which is being practiced against innocent people."

Meanwhile, a leaflet from the Islamic fundamentalist Hamas movement declared its solidarity with the camp's residents and criticised "the Zionist invaders

The mass demolitions, he said, "can only worsen things between Jews and Arabs."

A statement issued Thursday in Jerusalem by the Arab Journalists Association criticised the demolitions as "irrational and brutal."

It added: "We... denounce these measures and the iron fist policy which is being practiced against innocent people."

Meanwhile, a leaflet from the Islamic fundamentalist Hamas movement declared its solidarity with the camp's residents and criticised "the Zionist invaders

The mass demolitions, he said, "can only worsen things between Jews and Arabs."

A statement issued Thursday in Jerusalem by the Arab Journalists Association criticised the demolitions as "irrational and brutal."

It added: "We... denounce these measures and the iron fist policy which is being practiced against innocent people."

Meanwhile, a leaflet from the Islamic fundamentalist Hamas movement declared its solidarity with the camp's residents and criticised "the Zionist invaders

The mass demolitions, he said, "can only worsen things between Jews and Arabs."

A statement issued Thursday in Jerusalem by the Arab Journalists Association criticised the demolitions as "irrational and brutal."

It added: "We... denounce these measures and the iron fist policy which is being practiced against innocent people."

Meanwhile, a leaflet from the Islamic fundamentalist Hamas movement declared its solidarity with the camp's residents and criticised "the Zionist invaders

The mass demolitions, he said, "can only worsen things between Jews and Arabs."

A statement issued Thursday in Jerusalem by the Arab Journalists Association criticised the demolitions as "irrational and brutal."

It added: "We... denounce these measures and the iron fist policy which is being practiced against innocent people."

Meanwhile, a leaflet from the Islamic fundamentalist Hamas movement declared its solidarity with the camp's residents and criticised "the Zionist invaders

The mass demolitions, he said, "can only worsen things between Jews and Arabs."

A statement issued Thursday in Jerusalem by the Arab Journalists Association criticised the demolitions as "irrational and brutal."

It added: "We... denounce these measures and the iron fist policy which is being practiced against innocent people."

Meanwhile, a leaflet from the Islamic fundamentalist Hamas movement declared its solidarity with the camp's residents and criticised "the Zionist invaders

The mass demolitions, he said, "can only worsen things between Jews and Arabs."

A statement issued Thursday in Jerusalem by the Arab Journalists Association criticised the demolitions as "irrational and brutal."

It added: "We... denounce these measures and the iron fist policy which is being practiced against innocent people."

Meanwhile, a leaflet from the Islamic fundamentalist Hamas movement declared its solidarity with the camp's residents and criticised "the Zionist invaders

The mass demolitions, he said, "can only worsen things between Jews and Arabs."

A statement issued Thursday in Jerusalem by the Arab Journalists Association criticised the demolitions as "irrational and brutal."

It added: "We... denounce these measures and the iron fist policy which is being practiced against innocent people."

</div

Hrawi troops impose blockade on Aoun zone

BEIRUT (Agencies) — Troops loyal to Lebanese President Elias Hrawi clamped a tight blockade Friday on areas held by General Michel Aoun to try to starve him into surrender.

While Aoun remained defiant, panic erupted in the Christian enclave he partly controls. Residents rushed to stock up on food or left work to drive home in case of fighting.

Aoun, who has resisted attempts to besiege him for the past year, ruled out dialogue with Hrawi under the blockade.

"If they think they will bring the people to their knees with the blockade, they are mistaken," he told Al Anwar newspaper.

Aoun, who considers himself Lebanon's legitimate leader, survived last year's siege by Syrian and pro-Syrian forces. This time, the Christian Lebanese Forces (LF) militia let Hrawi's troops take over LF positions inside the enclave, facing Aoun's mainly Christian regular troops.

Aoun lost control of two-thirds of his enclave in a bloody four-month struggle for supremacy against the LF this year.

Hrawi's troops crossed the green line between west and east Beirut at dawn Friday. About 100

soldiers took over three former LF checkpoints on roads inside the enclave leading to the heart of Aoun's territory.

It was the first time since the national army broke in half along sectarian lines two years ago that regular troops not under Aoun's command had entered the Christian heartland.

Witnesses said all crossings to Aoun's areas were closed to cars and food trucks from midday (0900 GMT) and hundreds of cars were turned back. Only Red Cross teams, deputies, diplomats, and pedestrians could pass.

The move tightened an economic blockade clamped by Hrawi's government July 30 against Aoun and his soldiers in pockets they hold in east Beirut and the neighbouring Metn mountains.

Supplies of flour, food and vegetables were banned from reaching Aoun's 200-square-kilometre zone Friday. Fuel supplies and money transfers had been banned for two months.

Hrawi's mainly Muslim troops earlier took over the coastal and mountainous crossings into Aoun's enclave from the Christians' main militia headed by Samir Geagea.

The peaceful handover put the

final seal on Geagea's allegiance to Hrawi, leaving Aoun ringed from all sides in his small pocket with no air, sea or land outlets.

Hrawi's government is giving the new siege two weeks to bring the maverick general to heel. If that fails, Hrawi's army backed by Syrian troops would attack to oust Aoun forcefully, several Beirut newspapers reported.

Among the main crossings taken by Hrawi's troops was the main coastal highway tunnel on the Dog River, 10 kilometres north of central Beirut.

Geagea's militiamen also handed to Hrawi's soldiers all gateways to Aoun's pockets from east Beirut's residential districts of Ashrafieh, Sin Al Fil and Dora.

The irregulars then withdrew to the walled command headquarters known as the War Council at the seaside district of Karantina.

There was no word on how many troops from Hrawi's estimated 20,000-man army were assigned to man the crossings into Aoun's zone.

They are permitted under the new restrictions to leave the encircled zone to Hrawi-controlled areas to escape the anticipated starvation.

Abu Abbas warns U.S.

NICOSIA (Agencies) — A hardline Palestinian leader vowed Friday to strike at American interests "all over planet earth" if any Iraqi aircraft was attacked in enforce the air embargo of Iraq.

"America is the no. 1 terrorist country," the Iraqi News Agency (INA) quoted Mohammad Abbas, leader of the Palestine Liberation Front (PLF), as saying.

"The U.S. administration's decision — which it imposed on the United Nations — for a land, sea and air blockade of Iraq is an overt act of aggression," INA quoted him as saying during a meeting in Baghdad with Iraq's Deputy Prime Minister Taha Yassin Ramadan.

"Any terrorist act America and its allies commit against any Iraqi aircraft in the air or anywhere else will be avenged by similar, or even stronger actions all over planet earth," Abbas, also known as Abu Abbas, said.

Abu Abbas' PLF was blamed for the May 31 abortive attack on an Israeli beach which eventually led Washington to sever a dialogue it had initiated in December 1988, with the Palestine Liberation Organization.

The PLF had sought to distance itself from the attempt near Tel Aviv, saying it had no prior knowledge of the United States.

Representative Lee Hamilton, a Democrat, said a primary hangup was lawmakers' nervousness that any congressional resolution might be seen as implicitly endorsing any future use of force by

the United States.

"It's amazing," said a frustrated Representative William Broome, the senior Republican on the Foreign Affairs Committee. "We can get approval through the United Nations for the president's actions, but not through the Congress."

Although no Israeli was hurt in the attempt, Washington still insisted that the PLF punish Abu Abbas by expelling him from the PLF's Executive Committee.

The dialogue was severed in June after the PLF appeared unwilling to bow to the U.S. demand.

INA said Ramadan told Abu Abbas that the United States and its Western and Arab allies in the Gulf should not underestimate the might of the Arab forces ranged against them.

"They have reached an advanced level in armament, human, material and economic levels," Ramadan said.

But he said that Iraq has refrained from responding to the "aggressive and terrorist acts" by the American administration because it was still seeking a peaceful settlement.

"Iraq's non-retaliation to this clear and wide aggression affirms Iraq's serious keenness to seek peace and practical stances to achieve peace," he said.

"It is also to provide additional chances to avoid humanity the tragedies of war that the Americans and their allied aggressors are insinuating," the Iraqi official said.

He appealed for more international aid and said he hoped Western and Arab states would not cut money to Palestinian refugees in the West Bank and Gaza Strip who support Iraq.

"I hope this political aspect of (support for Iraq) will be analyzed and evaluated in its own right and that the reasons for it would be understood," he said.

Palestinian leaders criticise Iraq's invasion of Kuwait. But they accuse the West and some Arab states of double standards in sending troops to try to end one occupation but doing little to get Israel to withdraw from the West Bank and Gaza.

Giacomelli said countries which stood to lose from Gulf crisis seemed to have been allocated a large slice of financial aid.

"I hope it would be considered that even if... the Palestinians are not a country in the technical sense they are part and parcel of this social, economic and political reality and will have to receive their share."

He said the Gulf crisis coupled with the 33-month-old uprising

Bush sends \$7.5b Saudi arms deal to Congress

WASHINGTON (AP) — U.S. President George Bush has asked Congress to approve a \$7.5 billion arms deal for Saudi Arabia. The package includes missiles, tanks and other weapons to beef up the Saudi military.

Bush's arms sale proposal included 150 M-1A2 tanks, 1,750 advanced Tow anti-tank missiles and six Patriot anti-missile batteries, according to a formal request to Congress.

The package also included 200 Bradley armoured fighting vehicles, 12 Apache ground-attack helicopters, nine multiple-launch rocket systems, seven KC-130 tanker planes and 10,000 trucks, transporters and trailers.

In another development, House members hit snags when they sought to move ahead with a resolution backing Bush's moves in the Gulf crisis. The House Foreign Affairs Committee adjourned without action on a proposed resolution of support.

Representative Lee Hamilton, a Democrat, said a primary hangup was lawmakers' nervousness that any congressional resolution might be seen as implicitly endorsing any future use of force by the United States.

"It's amazing," said a frustrated Representative William Broome, the senior Republican on the Foreign Affairs Committee. "We can get approval through the United Nations for the president's actions, but not through the Congress."

As the resolution has gone through the drafting stages over the past three weeks, there have been echoes of the Tonkin Gulf resolution, a 1964 act that was seen as authorising widening U.S. involvement in Vietnam.

Committed Chairman Dante Fascell, a Democrat, sought to make it clear that the document would only approve Bush's actions so far in the Gulf crisis, and leave out any mention of next

year's military balance in the volatile region, Levine said.

The administration has decided to divide the Saudi arms package into two parts. The first to meet immediate Saudi "defence" needs in the current crisis, including weapons that can be delivered from current stocks or quickly taken off the production line. A second, \$14 billion package will be proposed in January to meet the country's longer-term needs.

The latter package will include F-15F fighter planes and more tanks, said the sources, who spoke on condition of anonymity.

The delay will give lawmakers more time to deliberate how the sale might change the military balance in the volatile region, Levine said.

At the same time, the administration has been discussing a new package of military aid to Israel and senior officials have promised to maintain Israel's qualitative military advantage over neighbouring states.

Israel's new hero — a bank bandit

TEL AVIV (R) — A motorcycle bandit who has held up 20 banks in 20 months has become a popular hero among Israelis who admire his bold, cool style, resent their banks and think the police are incompetent.

He did it again Thursday, raiding a suburban Tel Aviv bank and eluding the red-faced cops on his powerful, bright red motorcycle.

So great is the fame of the nameless "cycle-bandit" that Yoel Marcus, a political commentator for the angsty newspaper Haaretz, recently designated him "sportsman of the year."

He slips in and out of banks in 90 seconds, firing a single, harmless shot in the air with his silver 33-calibre revolver and taking money from just one teller.

His motorcycle can top 250 kilometres per hour.

But he stops at red lights, even when he knows it is being chased.

"Wow, what a guy!" exclaimed 12-year-old Leon Bassan, who witnessed a robbery. "Twenty times he drives the police mad and they still can't catch him. He has found a livelihood and is mocking the whole country. Wow, he has brains."

Ivan Callan, the British consul, said he did not expect disagreement over the sit in Gaza City would turn into a major dispute.

A foreign ministry official declined to give details of the dispute but said Israeli and British officials were discussing the proposed centre.

A foreign ministry official declined to give details of the dispute but said Israeli and British officials were discussing the proposed centre.

"We're quite sure it will be resolved in the next few days," he said.

Ivan Callan, the British consul, said he did not expect disagreement over the sit in Gaza City would turn into a major dispute.

The suspect, it turned out, ran because he had no driver's license. "The rumours were premature," Turner lamented.

Other bikers have started wearing stickers that read: "I am not the thief."

would drink aftershave to get his telephone number."

Police Minister Ronni Milo deplores the cycle-bandit. "For some of the public, this case arouses sympathy," he says. "We must remember this is armed robbery."

But many Israelis hardly think of him as a thief. He has stolen more than \$150,000 but after all, they ask, who's hurt? Banks are insured.

An elite detective unit has been working round the clock to catch the cycle-bandit thief.

"The key word is patience.

And we have it, believe me," one detective said. "He is fighting us one-on-one here. In the end we will put him on the line with handcuffs on."

Government-owned television aired a children's show comedy routine this week about police chasing the bandit.

Police though they had their man at last after Thursday's hold-up when a motorcyclist collided with a patrol car and tried to flee. Police chief Yaacov Turner made a special trip to Tel Aviv for the triumphant press conference.

The suspect, it turned out, ran because he had no driver's license. "The rumours were premature," Turner lamented.

Other bikers have started wearing stickers that read: "I am not the thief."

Ben Bella urges Arabs to rally behind Iraq

ALGIERS (R) — Former Algerian President Ahmad Ben Bella, appealing to nationalist fervour in a comeback bid after nine years' exile, urged Arabs Friday to rally behind Iraq and save the Third World from being crushed by the Saudi military.

Speaking of the Saudi arms proposal, Rep. Mel Levine of California, said, "This is a significant improvement."

Levine, a staunch supporter of

used by a family of sheiks with \$200 billion in mostly Zionist banks?"

Thrown into jail and political oblivion by his Defence Minister Houari Boumedienne, Ben Bella is largely unknown to most of Algeria's young population and opponents wonder if he will be able to rally them despite his still youthful charisma.

Ben Bella said he was not

coming back to settle old scores

but to restore confidence between the people and the government.

"I hope we can achieve a true

democratic front to reshape the political landscape... based on a common programme of national unity and democracy. That is what I will work for."

But he gave few indications of the political composition of such a front and made overtures to the rank and file of both the ruling National Liberation Front (FLN) and the fundamentalist Islamic Salvation Front (FIS) that won local polls last June.

Some political leaders both in and out of power see Ben Bella as a potential bulwark against the Muslim fundamentalists but he declined to exclude the FIS — as many liberals do — from the line-up of democratic parties.

A devout Muslim who never smoked or drank, Ben Bella has himself championed Islam as the basis of a more egalitarian political order in both Algeria and the world.

Bitterly attacking corruption and economic mismanagement under the FLN he said liberal economic reforms by the current government were throwing Algeria back to the days of French colonial concessions.

"They are in the process of killing the economy," he said, citing new incentives to foreign investment.

The programme of Ben Bella's own Movement for Democracy in Algeria (MDA) calls for a return to agriculture, neglected in a 1970s industrialisation drive, setting up small industries and forming education to bring it more into line with Arab and Islamic values.

Hurd, Velayati meet after resuming relations

UNITED NATIONS (R) — British Foreign Secretary Douglas Hurd and his Iranian counterpart, Ali Akbar Velayati, met for the first time in the last few weeks or months. I think (today's) development certainly indicates the moderate group in Iran has carried the day.

The restoration of diplomatic links between Britain and Iran holds out fresh hope for British hostages held in Lebanon and for writer Salman Rushdie, who is under a death threat imposed by the late Ayatollah Khomeini.

The future also looks brighter for British businessman Roger Cooper, who has been held in Iran since 1985 on spying charges which he denies.

Hurd, commenting Thursday's rapprochement announced at the United Nations, said the move was another brick in the diplomatic wall against Iraq.

London and Tehran could now be discussed, Hurd told reporters in New York, adding: "High on that list is the influence which the Iranians can bring to bear of those who hold the hostages in the Lebanon."

In the past Britain has said the question of hostages, Cooper and Rushdie was an obstacle to relations. "There have been those obstacles, I believe that we are closer to moving the obstacles," the foreign secretary said.

JORDAN TELEVISION

Tel: 77111-19

CHURCHES

St. Mary of Nazareth Church, Tel Aviv, 810740
Koran — Programmes review

Children programme, Tel. 632785

Educational programme, Tel. 624590

News Summary, Tel. 629199

Local programme, Tel. 629199

Programme review, Tel. 629199

News in Arabic, Tel. 629199

Arabic series, Tel. 629199

Programme review, Tel. 629199

Local programme, Tel. 629199

News in Arabic, Tel. 629199

Arabic series, Tel. 629199

Programme review, Tel. 629199

News in Arabic, Tel. 629199

World leaders
meet to discuss
children

MMAN (Petra) — For the first time ever, some 60 world leaders known to assemble today at the United Nations' headquarters in New York, not to discuss politics, but to discuss children.

The event, the World Summit of Children, provides a unique opportunity for the world's leaders, from all over the world to discuss children and their needs.

The conference, held at the initiative of Canada, Egypt, Mali, Mexico, Pakistan and Sweden, aims at drawing the world's attention, at the highest levels, to the composition, rights, concerns and problems of children, and at ensuring their well-being and the best means for improving their living conditions.

The conference, the first of its kind in human history, seeks to underline children's priority when drawing up policies and making allocations, because "they are the future leaders of the world and its decision makers, and as such they must be given the opportunity to grow to their full potential and to receive the necessary protection at all times."

The summit will discuss the opportunities available for saving children, through cost-effective, nursing methods, including immunisation, Oral Rehydration Therapy (ORT), breast feeding as well as other low cost measures which can save the lives of millions of children who die of preventable diseases.

The Jordanian delegation to the conference will be headed by Queen Noor.

5,000 Indians
return home
on EC flights

AMMAN (J.T.) — The European Community (EC) has organised eight unscheduled flights from Queen Alia International Airport to India to transport Indian evacuees who had been stranded in Jordan after arriving here from Kuwait and Iraq.

A report by the Jordan News Agency, Petra, said that EC head of delegation here Christian Falkowski supervised the process of repatriation of a large number of Indian nationals on these flights Thursday.

Falkowski was quoted by Petra as saying that the EC has undertaken the task of repatriating Indian nationals by supplying a raft and that so far 6,000 have been repatriated under this programme.

Arar
delivers
message
to Libyan
leader

RIPOLI (Petra) — Speaker of the Lower House of Parliament Arar, who heads a Jordanian parliamentary delegation to Libya, has delivered a message from His Majesty King Hussein to the Libyan leader Muammar Qaddafi.

At the meeting, which was attended by the delegation members, the Libyan leader emphasised his support of Jordan's stand and urged the Libyan and Jordanian parliaments to coordinate their work in a manner that would bolster ties between the two countries.

Arar and the delegation members briefed the Libyan leader on Jordan's stand with regard to developments in the region, stressing on the inherent danger in the region military presence in the Arabian peninsula.

Arar is accompanied on the visit by Abdul Latif Ararbi, Shammad Dardour, Mohammad Alawneh and Fakhri Kawa.

WHAT'S GOING ON

The following listings are compiled from monthly bulletins and the daily Arabic press. Readers are advised to verify the listed time and place with the concerned institutions.

EXHIBITIONS

Open studio and workshop for artist Samia Zara displaying paintings, sculptures and hand-painted fabrics. Location: off 2nd Circle, opposite Rosenthal (9:30-1:30 and 3:30-6:30).

Archaeological exhibition entitled "Al Lajjun — a Roman Frontier Post" at the Department of Antiquities' Registration and Research Centre, Jabal Amman.

Plastic art exhibition at the Jordan Plastic Art Association.

Prince Hassan urges U.S. Congress to support Gulf negotiations

WASHINGTON (Petra) — His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan, who is now in the United States, Thursday met with members of the U.S. House of Representatives' Foreign Affairs Committee to discuss the Gulf crisis and Jordan's efforts to find a peaceful settlement to the issue.

Prince Hassan called on Congress members to support direct negotiations between Iraq and Kuwait as provided for in U.N. Security Council Resolution 660.

CAA chief says resolution 670 concerns only cargo

AMMAN (J.T.) — Queen Alia International Airport officials said Friday that they had handled three Iraqi Airways flights from and to Baghdad, two in the morning and one at noon Friday, all for the benefit of passengers evaluating the Gulf region.

Contacted by the Jordan Times, the airport officials confirmed a statement by the Civil Aviation Authority (CAA) director Mahmoud Balqaz that Jordan was strictly abiding by U.N. Security Council resolution 670 imposing an air embargo on the flight of cargo to and from Iraq and Kuwait.

CAA director said Thursday that Jordan was allowing passenger flights but no cargo except for humanitarian shipments of food and medicine.

Balqaz told Jordan Television that Security Council resolution

so as to find a political settlement to the crisis, and stressed that the Security Council had highlighted the Arab League's mediation efforts in this issue.

Later the Prince met separately with the chairmen of house committees responsible for the armed forces, the Middle East and Europe and of the House of Representatives' Appropriations Committee with whom he reviewed developments in the Gulf

and Jordan's stand. He explained economic difficulties encountered by Jordan as a result of its commitment to the sanctions imposed on Iraq in implementation of Security Council Resolution 661.

Prince Hassan called for speedy efforts to end the Gulf issue which, he said, has been endangering security and peace in the Middle East, and said that all the region's issues must be settled.

Underlining Jordan's commitment to the resolution, Izzeddin told the Jordan Times that Jordan realised that the resolution was mandatory and the government of Jordan would therefore adhere to it.

Under resolution 670 the Security Council confirmed that its sanctions applied to all aircraft, and said that states should deny permission to any aircraft to take off from their territory if the aircraft carried cargo, other than humanitarian food or medical supplies, to Iraq or Kuwait.

It said that states must also deny any aircraft, whatever its port of origin, permission to fly over its territory if its destination was Iraq or Kuwait. Exceptions are for planes willing to land and permit cargo inspection.

Underlining Jordan's commitment to the resolution, Izzeddin told the Jordan Times that Jordan realised that the resolution was mandatory and the government of Jordan would therefore adhere to it.

According to the minister, the new strategy will take into consideration all possibilities that could face the agricultural sector in the wake of the loss of certain markets, especially in the Gulf states, and will aim at ensuring food security under the present circumstances.

He said that a special food security committee had been set up to study the present agricultural situation, to work in cooperation with the Higher Agricultural Council and to work out agricultural plans that should be ready in a few weeks' time.

Before the outbreak of the Gulf crisis Jordan had expressed confidence it would sell JD 140 million worth of crops to European and Gulf states during 1990. The assumption was based on the Kingdom's total sale of JD 53 million worth of crops to these countries in the first five months of 1990.

working papers, submitted by the Ministry of Agriculture, the University of Jordan, the Agricultural Marketing Organisation (AMO), the Jordan Cooperative Organisation and the Jordanian Agricultural Engineers' Association, were reviewed, according to a statement following the meeting which took place Thursday.

The working papers emphasised the need for Jordan to have a new agricultural strategy to deal with the consequences of the Gulf crisis, to focus attention on the production of strategic crops like cereals and animal feed, to increase livestock and dairy production and small domestic industries, according to the statement.

The working papers, said the statement, dealt also with means that could be used for exploiting state-owned land, and the prospects of implementing agricultural cropping patterns in rain-fed and irrigated regions and to cut down on the production of vegeta-

ables for the time being.

According to the minister, the new strategy will take into consideration all possibilities that could face the agricultural sector in the wake of the loss of certain markets, especially in the Gulf states, and will aim at ensuring food security under the present circumstances.

He said that a special food security committee had been set up to study the present agricultural situation, to work in cooperation with the Higher Agricultural Council and to work out agricultural plans that should be ready in a few weeks' time.

Before the outbreak of the Gulf crisis Jordan had expressed confidence it would sell JD 140 million worth of crops to European and Gulf states during 1990.

The assumption was based on the Kingdom's total sale of JD 53 million worth of crops to these countries in the first five months of 1990.

AMMAN (Petra) — The Cabinet has recently adopted the revised civil servants regulation which included amendments to the provisions of the 1983 regulation.

The revised regulation was drawn up and endorsed by the Cabinet to bridge some of the gaps and shortcomings contained in the civil servants regulation no. 1 for the year 1983. The revised law addressed such issues as calculating practical experience for the employee after obtaining his scientific degree, according to legal advisor of the Civil Service Commission Hilmi Al Sarabi.

Surabi said the amendment specifies that the employee can get one year raise for every year of experience in a government job before being classified.

For non-government jobs, he said, the employee will get one year raise for every two years of experience if the employee acquired his experience in the Kingdom and the same if acquired it in a government job abroad.

He said the amendment also entitled the employee to one year raise for every two years of experience if he obtains the tawjih while working at the official institution. He said the amendment includes in the system employees who get the tawjih certificate while working at the institution if they were not included in the civil servants law no 23 for the year 1986.

Surabi said the amendment provides for classifying the employee according to the highest degree he obtains while a government employee.

On the establishment of Caritas in Jordan Adeli said that it was established in 1967 after the June war of 1967 with the aim of providing relief aid to the displaced and needy people. However, he noted, the society organises rehabilitation activities for women, such as training courses on sewing, embroidery, flower arrangement, and hand crafts.

Charity helps refugees

AMMAN (Petra) — Jordan Caritas Society has provided 5,000 blankets, 500 tents in addition to daily meals to evacuees in Rweished, Azraq, Andalus and Marj Al Hamam camps, the society director Mousa Adeli said Thursday.

In an interview with the Jordanian News Agency, Petra, Adeli said that the society has contributed JD 100,000 towards the construction of social service units in Madaba district, that is 40 per cent of the total costs of the units. The remaining costs were provided by Queen Alia Jordan Social Welfare Fund.

Adeli added that the society also contributed JD 350,000 to partly finance costs of construction of social service centres in Mafrak Governorate. He noted that Caritas Jordan works in close cooperation with other voluntary societies in Jordan, and that it is helping support more than 1,000 poor families in various parts of Jordan.



Women demonstrate in Amman (within International Red Cross Bureij refugee camp in Gaza Strip (photo by Yousef Al Allan)



premises) to protest against Israeli's arbitrary measures taken in

Women stage protest against Israeli arbitrary measures in Gaza Strip

By Sana Atiyeh

AMMAN — With world attention focused on the Gulf crisis, a few hundred Jordanian and Palestinian women attempted to refocus attention on events in the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip by staging a sit-in at the International Red Cross premises Friday to protest against Israel's arbitrary measures in the occupied territories, particularly in the Gaza Strip.

Some 250 women, many dressed in Palestinian embroidered gowns and black and white chequered headresses, sang national songs and yodeled as others carried banners calling attention to the Palestinian community under Israeli occupation.

"Yes to the United Nations forces to protect the women and children of Palestine."

"We demand the trials of Israelis who commit daily crimes against Palestinian children," "Jordanian women strongly condemn the brutality committed by the hands of Zionists against Gazans in the refugee camps," read some of the banners held up by young women.

The women called on the United Nations to send troops to the Israeli occupied territories to protect Palestinians from the occupation authorities' collective punishment.

According to the petition addressed to the U.N. secretary-general, Israeli Defence Minister Moshe Arens approved to deport "the suspects," and to demolish 32 houses, shops and gas stations in Bureij camp, which has been under a ten-day curfew.

The cruel suppression campaign continues for the ninth day while Bureij remains isolated from the rest of the world and the camp is running short of food supplies and milk for children," the petition stated.

The women called on the United Nations to send troops to the Israeli occupied territories to protect Palestinians from the occupation authorities' collective punishment.

The women called on the United Nations to send troops to the Israeli occupied territories to protect Palestinians from the occupation authorities' collective punishment.

The women called on the United Nations to send troops to the Israeli occupied territories to protect Palestinians from the occupation authorities' collective punishment.

The women called on the United Nations to send troops to the Israeli occupied territories to protect Palestinians from the occupation authorities' collective punishment.

The women called on the United Nations to send troops to the Israeli occupied territories to protect Palestinians from the occupation authorities' collective punishment.

The women called on the United Nations to send troops to the Israeli occupied territories to protect Palestinians from the occupation authorities' collective punishment.

The women called on the United Nations to send troops to the Israeli occupied territories to protect Palestinians from the occupation authorities' collective punishment.

The women called on the United Nations to send troops to the Israeli occupied territories to protect Palestinians from the occupation authorities' collective punishment.

The women called on the United Nations to send troops to the Israeli occupied territories to protect Palestinians from the occupation authorities' collective punishment.

The women called on the United Nations to send troops to the Israeli occupied territories to protect Palestinians from the occupation authorities' collective punishment.

The women called on the United Nations to send troops to the Israeli occupied territories to protect Palestinians from the occupation authorities' collective punishment.

The women called on the United Nations to send troops to the Israeli occupied territories to protect Palestinians from the occupation authorities' collective punishment.

The women called on the United Nations to send troops to the Israeli occupied territories to protect Palestinians from the occupation authorities' collective punishment.

The women called on the United Nations to send troops to the Israeli occupied territories to protect Palestinians from the occupation authorities' collective punishment.

The women called on the United Nations to send troops to the Israeli occupied territories to protect Palestinians from the occupation authorities' collective punishment.

The women called on the United Nations to send troops to the Israeli occupied territories to protect Palestinians from the occupation authorities' collective punishment.

The women called on the United Nations to send troops to the Israeli occupied territories to protect Palestinians from the occupation authorities' collective punishment.

The women called on the United Nations to send troops to the Israeli occupied territories to protect Palestinians from the occupation authorities' collective punishment.

The women called on the United Nations to send troops to the Israeli occupied territories to protect Palestinians from the occupation authorities' collective punishment.

The women called on the United Nations to send troops to the Israeli occupied territories to protect Palestinians from the occupation authorities' collective punishment.

The women called on the United Nations to send troops to the Israeli occupied territories to protect Palestinians from the occupation authorities' collective punishment.

The women called on the United Nations to send troops to the Israeli occupied territories to protect Palestinians from the occupation authorities' collective punishment.

The women called on the United Nations to send troops to the Israeli occupied territories to protect Palestinians from the occupation authorities' collective punishment.

The women called on the United Nations to send troops to the Israeli occupied territories to protect Palestinians from the occupation authorities' collective punishment.

The women called on the United Nations to send troops to the Israeli occupied territories to protect Palestinians from the occupation authorities' collective punishment.

The women called on the United Nations to send troops to the Israeli occupied territories to protect Palestinians from the occupation authorities' collective punishment.

The women called on the United Nations to send troops to the Israeli occupied territories to protect Palestinians from the occupation authorities' collective punishment.

The women called on the United Nations to send troops to the Israeli occupied territories to protect Palestinians from the occupation authorities' collective punishment.

The women called on the United Nations to send troops to the Israeli occupied territories to protect Palestinians from the occupation authorities' collective punishment.

The women called on the United Nations to send troops to the Israeli occupied territories to protect Palestinians from the occupation authorities' collective punishment.

The women called on the United Nations to send troops to the Israeli occupied territories to protect Palestinians from the occupation authorities' collective punishment.

The women called on the United Nations to send troops to the Israeli occupied territories to protect Palestinians from the occupation authorities' collective punishment.

The women called on the United Nations to send troops to the Israeli occupied territories to protect Palestinians from the occupation authorities' collective punishment.

The women called on the United Nations to send troops to the Israeli occupied territories to protect Palestinians from the occupation authorities' collective punishment.

The women called on the United Nations to send troops to the Israeli occupied territories to protect Palestinians from the occupation authorities' collective punishment.

The women called on the United Nations to send troops to the Israeli occupied territories to protect Palestinians from the occupation authorities' collective punishment.

The women called on the United Nations to send troops to the Israeli occupied territories to protect Palestinians from the occupation authorities' collective punishment.

The women called on the United Nations to send troops to the Israeli occupied territories to protect Palestinians from the occupation authorities' collective punishment.

The women called on the United Nations to send troops to the Israeli occupied territories to protect Palestinians from the occupation authorities' collective punishment.

The women called on the United Nations to send troops to the Israeli occupied territories to protect Palestinians from the occupation authorities' collective punishment.

The women called on the United Nations to send troops to the Israeli occupied territories to protect Palestinians from the occupation authorities' collective punishment.

The women called on the United Nations to send troops to the Israeli occupied territories to protect Palestinians from the occupation authorities' collective punishment.

The women called on the United Nations to send troops to the Israeli occupied territories to protect Palestinians from the occupation authorities' collective punishment.

Jordan Times

An independent Arab political daily published in English by the Jordan Press Foundation. Established 1975.

جريدة عربية مستقلة تصدر باللغة الإنجليزية في الأردن

Chairman of the Board of Directors:
MAHMOUD AL KAYED

Director General:
MOHAMMAD AMAD

Editor-in-Chief:
GEORGE S. HAWATMEH

Editorial and advertising offices:
Jordan Press Foundation,

University Road, P.O. Box 6710, Amman, Jordan.

Telephones: 667171/6, 670141-4

Telex: 21497 ALRAI JO

Faximile: 661242

The Jordan Times is published daily except Fridays. Subscription and advertising rates are available from the Jordan Times advertising department.

Children deserve our best

WORLD attention is focusing nowadays on the United Nations headquarters, where some 70 world leaders will be meeting today for the first time in human history to discuss one subject only — children.

The world summit for children, originally called for by the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), provides a unique opportunity for world leaders to unite around one goal, which is children — tomorrow's world and the future leaders and decision-makers.

The summit is aimed at placing children high on the political agenda and giving them the priority they deserve when drawing up national policies or making financial allocations and ensuring their protection at all times. The summit, coming at a crucial time when the children of Iraq and Palestine are denied their basic rights to food, milk and education, and when children of Lebanon and Sudan are killed by armed conflicts or by famine, is called upon to ensure that the decisions made by the great powers do not hit the children of the poor and the most vulnerable.

The summit, which seeks to put an end to the sufferings of millions of children and end the daily carnage of thousands of children who die needlessly because of preventable causes, should also address the effects of political decisions taken under the U.N. umbrella on the children of the world. In this regard, we can recall the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Children, which was adopted by the United Nations General Assembly in November 1989. The convention stressed among other things the right of every child to food, water, health services, education and development. Despite this, Palestinian children are still denied the right to education through the repeated closure of schools and educational institutions in the occupied territories. They are also denied the right to grow up naturally, away from the fears and pressures of occupation.

Iraqi children are now denied the right to have enough food and milk, yet the world has not stepped forward to rectify their plight.

It is hoped that this summit would come up with concrete results and world-wide commitment to protect all children, in good and bad times without any regard to their colour, sex, religion, or their countries' political stands on various issues.

Children should be spared all these problems and concerns, and should be kept away from the disputes of the world of adults. Children should be allowed to live in peace, think freely and develop naturally, enjoying their full rights to dignified living.

ARABIC PRESS COMMENTARIES

Al Ra'i Friday called on the U.N. General Assembly to free itself of U.S. hegemony and to direct its attention towards solving the Palestine question as well as the Gulf crisis. The paper said that by linking the two issues in his initiative, Saddam Hussein has displayed to the world that Iraq was for international legitimacy and not opposed to the will of the United Nations but that the United States is doing otherwise. The paper noted that the United States is watching Israel committing terrorist campaigns in the occupied Gaza Strip, but is doing nothing to stop the aggressors. James Baker who has been bragging about justice and international legitimacy is watching the Palestinian bombs being demolished and the Israeli occupation authorities committing mass atrocities against the Palestinian people without raising his voice to demand a halt to the persecution of the Palestinian civilians, the paper added. Iraq was right when it called on the United Nations to deal with all the problems of the Middle East because international legitimacy should not be divisible and selective, and Baghdad was right in demanding that Security Council resolutions adopted in 1967 should be implemented so that the problems of the Middle East can be settled, the paper noted. It said that the United Nations should now seek to convene an international conference which can supervise the implementation of all these resolutions if peace is to be achieved in our region.

A columnist in Al Ra'i daily says that not-Jewish voices in Europe and the United States do not advocate war in the Gulf because they realise too well that war is bound to bring about untold losses for the United States and its interest in that region. Tareq Masarweh says that Jewish voices in Europe and the United States were quick to oppose a peace plan for the Gulf crisis as submitted by the French president to the United Nations because they do not want a peaceful settlement. The Europeans and Japanese realise that the sharp rise in the price of oil is bound to strangle their industries and cause economic recession in Europe and Japan, and they also realise that the massing of troops in the Gulf can by no means force the Iraqis to withdraw from Kuwait, says the writer. He notes that Mitterrand has come up with his plan to safeguard peace and ensure the safety of European interests, something which is not to the taste of the Zionists in the United States. Should Iraq launch a war and succeed in driving away the enemy, the interests of the United States and its allies in the region will be in deep trouble, and should the Iraqi attack fail, at least the oil fields will be devastated and it will take long years to reconstruct them, Masarweh adds. He says in any case, and without a peace plan that can safeguard the interests of all parties to the conflict, the losses will be great for the United States and its allies.

Al Dastour daily said that the anti-American demonstrations in Tehran and other Iranian cities display clearly that the Arabs and Muslims can by no means accept foreign occupation of the holy lands in the Arabian peninsula. The paper said that the renewed call by Iran on Muslims to wage a holy war on the Americans and their allies is a renewed manifestation of the wrath of the Muslims of the world in the light of the current situation in the Gulf and the deployment of foreign forces and Israeli troops to launch attack on a Muslim nation.

By Izzat Dajani

"WE are all stubborn stiff-necked people" was Teddy Kollek's best explanation to Israel's claims over Arab East Jerusalem. Mr. Kollek, the Israeli mayor of Jerusalem, is a witness to the fact that Palestinians born under occupation are the very ones demanding Israel's withdrawal from the occupied Arab territories. Their legitimate demands stem from their aspirations to express their identity in a Palestinian state with East Jerusalem as its capital. However, Palestinian rights, aspirations and legitimate demands are constantly challenged and ignored by Israel.

The Arab-Israeli conflict in general, and the Palestinian-Jewish conflict over Palestine in particular, has been going on for over 40 years, since the state of Israel was created. The conflict is characterised by fear and mistrust. The Israeli claim not to trust the Palestinians as

being truly committed to peace. They mistrust the PLO, its ability and credibility in enforcing a peaceful settlement upon the Palestinian people and the various functions within the Palestinian movement. Sadly, they refuse to admit the legitimacy of the PLO as the sole representative of the Palestinians.

In return, the Palestinians are more familiar than others with Israel and Israeli policy. They are witnesses and victims of Israeli aggression and expansionist policy in the area. Palestinian renunciation of terrorism is rewarded by state-sponsored terrorism by Israel itself. This is best demonstrated by Israel's interventionist policies in Lebanon, Tunisia and the Arab World at large. Israel has self-appointed itself the "police man" of the region when itself is the convict.

While both sides emphasise the rhetoric of mistrust and fear, the Israelis fail to address the issue of reality. The

Palestinians have moved many steps forward in recognising reality and making it dominate their fears. They accepted the call for an international peace conference to implement a final settlement in accordance with U.N. Security Council Resolutions 242 and 338. Meanwhile, Israel fails, or worse still refuses to see reality. It refuses to deal with the PLO. It insists on the right to appoint its "own" Palestinian negotiators. It wants peace while keeping the occupied territories. Israel's idiosyncrasy is best expressed in the saying: baking one's own cake and eating it.

While Israel ignores the

Palestinian paradigm of facing one's own reality, the peace process, per se, remains futile. Palestinians of all ages and from both sexes are constantly and routinely being humiliated by the Israeli occupying forces. Homes are being levelled to the ground for ridiculous and false accusations. People are

being imprisoned without trial and routinely deported. The harshest economic and social measures are being enforced upon the Palestinians. To this grossly inhuman behaviour, the U.S. administration chose to ignore congressional calls for cutting aid to Israel, the country that in accordance to American law violates human rights. Instead it continues to contribute \$10 million daily to the state of Israel. Isn't this American double standard? And if not, then America is contributing to inhumanity and injustice and is losing money, taxpayers' money, that could be spent on many worthy causes.

In a recent Rand study, it was concluded that the Arab-Israeli conflict can only be resolved by creating a Palestinian state in the West Bank and Gaza. It urged both Israel and the United States to accept this "inevitable compromise." Israeli opposition to Palestinian statehood could prove

very costly and endanger Israeli "security" in the long term, the report concluded. It may be appropriate to add in this context that Israel is a victim of its "surprise" victories in its wars with the Arab neighbours. It is suffering from an ailment best described as "superiority complex." This led to its intransigence whereby it is pushing its luck beyond the threshold of Arab dignity and tolerance. There need not be a reminder that the Arab World never chose Israel as its neighbour. Israel should never forget or ignore this fact and must hitherto come to better terms with itself and envision its future realistically.

In a recent speech, at Harvard Law School, retired General Yehoshafat Harkabi, reflected his dismay with Israel's attitude towards peace. Harkabi, a former chief of Israeli military intelligence, and currently a professor at Hebrew University, said it would be foolish and short-sighted for Israelis to think and assume that only they have rights over Jerusalem. He stressed that it was not in Israel's interest to realise that it was not a custodian of the Christian and Muslim holy places. It simply cannot have peace without trading its land, including the land of East Jerusalem.

Unfortunately, Israelis assume more positive, moderate and sensible realistic attitudes when they are not in public office and are not answerable to their constituents and voters. Peace will become more of a reality when those in office, including Mayor Kollek, start speaking the "language" of General Harkabi, or more appropriately, Professor Harkabi.

Still we are left with the constant reminder, best expressed by a Jordanian diplomat, that he only peace Israel seems to understand is a piece of Jordan, a piece of Syria and a piece of Lebanon.

Coup rumours fuelled by unrest in Soviet army

By Robert Evans
Reuter

MOSCOW — The red-faced colonel glared down the hall at the prime minister of the Russian federation and almost spat out his message: "Don't you dare raise your hand against our glorious armed forces."

The incident last week at a meeting between the radical leaders of the Soviet Union's major republic and the country's military hierarchy was one of many over the past few months fuelling rumours that the army might be considering a coup.

Defence Minister Marshal Dmitry Yazov has publicly denied that the armed forces and any such intentions, and both Soviet analysts and foreign diplomats say they doubt even the most hard-line generals could be eyeing the coup option.

"They are unhappy at what they see as growing disorder and the threat of a break-up of the country," said an official of the Communist Party's central committee. "But it's a long way from that to thinking about a takeover."

"Over the past few weeks, Moscow military commentators have pointed to the rapid American buildup in the Gulf following Iraq's invasion of Kuwait as evidence that the U.S. remains a real potential threat to the Soviet Union's security."

But there is no doubt that unrest is growing throughout the Soviet officer corps as the country slides from the rigid political and economic system of seven decades towards the type of chaotic free-for-all abhorred by any military mind.

"When are they going to stop this mocking of the army and of our mighty state?" demanded Igor Rodionov, head of the armed forces general staff academy in an article this month in the Russian nationalist journal Molodaya Gvardiya.

General Rodionov's outburst, like many others from senior military figures over the past year, was sparked by an increasing volume of criticism in the free-wheeling Soviet media of the army and the way it conducts its affairs.

Journalists and deputies to the Soviet parliament have accused the military hierarchy of a wide range of offences ranging from allowing institutionalised bullying to outright corruption.

This week a disillusioned general told one Moscow weekly he had been pensioned off at 48 as deputy commander of the country's air defence forces for arguing with Yazov on how to prevent flight accidents killing many young pilots.

Accustomed at least since the mid-1960s to operating as a state-within-a-state where any public discussion of their activities was barred on the grounds of security, the armed forces have not taken kindly to the new days.

Since late 1989, the top hierarchy's concern over the perceived threat to their position as one of the pillars of the Communist system has been compounded by the collapse of the Kremlin's former East European empire.

Echoing hard-line Communist figures now eased from most power positions by Mikhail Gorbachev, one senior general, Albert Makashov, told a Communist Party conference this summer that the president's foreign policy had left the country open to aggression.

Makashov, who commands the Urals military district where many defence plants are located, became a hero among both political and military conservatives, while radicals wondered why Gorbachev took no action against him.

It was one of his senior officers, Colonel Anatoly Kutukov, who issued the warning to Russian Prime Minister Ivan Silayev at last week's meeting, attended also by Yazov and almost the entire hierarchy of the army, air force and navy.

"Do not touch the military-industrial complex. Do not seek cuts in defence spending," Kutukov told Silayev, whose government is pushing ahead with a 500-day programme to rescue the crisis-ridden economy and switch it to a market system.

The central Soviet parliament is still agonising over the introduction of the programme for the entire country. It sets a reduction of 20 per cent in expenditure on the armed forces as a key measure to slash a huge government budget deficit.

Kutukov, Rodionov and other military figures argue that the West, particularly the United States, maintains an offensive posture towards the Soviet Union despite agreement between Gorbachev and President George Bush that the cold war is over.

Over the past few weeks, Moscow military commentators have also pointed to the rapid American buildup in the Gulf following Iraq's invasion of Kuwait as evidence that the U.S. remains a real potential threat to the Soviet Union's security.

But with the opening of Soviet society under Gorbachev's reforms, a new type of officer has emerged at all levels in the armed forces ready to speak out against the views and behaviour of the entrenched hierarchy.

Many have won elections to the Soviet parliament, the Supreme Soviet, and to the legislatures of the country's 15 republics, emerging as supporters of radical change throughout society as well as in the armed forces.

A surge of coup speculation over the past two weeks came amid charges from some of these officers that paratroop units with full gear were moved to Moscow in mid-September as public unrest grew in the capital over food shortages.

Yazov and other senior figures dismiss the radical officers, many of whom have been forced out of the armed forces as a handful of troublemakers. But even Communist officials say they reflect a wider mood.

"Even among the younger generals there is a recognition that the old days are gone," said a senior party member. "Even if some of the hard-liners thought about a coup, I doubt that they could bring their colleagues with them."

"More responsibility not more power"

By Tom Heneghan
Reuter

BONN — Only a few weeks ago, nervous neighbours were asking whether a unified Germany would become a fourth reich, a continental colossus or an arrogant world power too big for its allies.

Then Iraq took over Kuwait and the Germans — wary of military action after their Nazi-scarred past — stood back as the West rushed troops and ships to the Gulf.

Suddenly there were urgent calls for Bonn to send money, equipment and even soldiers. A Soviet expert on German affairs suggested big power status for the new state with a permanent seat on the United Nations Security Council.

The Oct. 3 merger of East and West Germany is coming so fast that neither the Germans nor their neighbours are sure yet what role the unexpected state will play.

The new Germany, in many respects and enlargement of Bonn's pro-Western federal republic, will be Europe's richest country and second only to the Soviet Union in population.

Its voice will be heard around the globe. Its chancellor will be one of the world's most influential men and its currency one of the strongest.

But how will the people twice in this century fought and failed to dominate Europe use their new-found power?

Cautiously, most Germans say. "There cannot be another German reich, just as there cannot be another Spanish empire or another far-flung British colonial empire," says Golo Mann, one of Germany's leading historians.

"(The new Germany) will not be a military big power, because it does not want to be one and it would not make sense to be one. European civilisation — and this goes for America and Russia as well — has simply grown out of the age of wars."

"It will be an economic world

change their policy".

While remaining pro-European, a united Germany straddling the old cold war divide will also encourage the community to look towards the ex-communist east.

The Germans are already the main traders and financiers for countries such as the Soviet Union, Poland, Czechoslovakia and Hungary, now turning West after decades of communist isolation.

"A united Germany must stand up for these neighbours in the East," says Kohl's Foreign Policy Adviser Horst Teitsch.

"The result could be... a Europe of free democratic states with the same economic order and currency... leading to a united Europe with a federal structure at the end of the road."

Despite general support for these goals, the leaders of a united Germany may need several years to tackle the domestic problems unification will bring before taking a decisive lead on the international front.

"Germany will be weaker at first, not stronger," a European diplomat said. He said the billions of dollars pledged so far to

transform East Germany and help Moscow withdraw its troops were only part of the final bill for unification.

"The payoff will come a few years later when the East catches up with the West."

The most visible change after Oct. 3 will be Germany's size and shape. It will have 78 million people, far above Britain, France and Italy in the 55 to 57 million range.

A third bigger than West Germany alone, it will still be the smallest "greater Germany" in history — the German empire Bismarck forged in 1871 stretching across half of present-day Poland to Lithuania and included France's Alsace-Lorraine area.

Mann, son of novelist Thomas Mann, noted the new Germany would be only 10% the size of the country he was born in back in 1909.

"My God, how big it was then, how far it stretched... incomparably farther than today," the historian mused in a radio interview.

"Germany will be weaker at first, not stronger," a European diplomat said. He said the billions of dollars pledged so far to

transform East Germany and help Moscow withdraw its troops were only part of the final bill for unification.

But apart from reaffirming Bonn's close ties to the United States, he said almost nothing about the rest of the world. The Gulf crisis went unmentioned.

"It is in the Germans' interest to be the best Europeans possible," said a French delegate at a summit between Kohl and President Francois Mitterrand in Munich last week.

"The EC reintegrated them, they became the most powerful member of the group and now they are growing even bigger," he said. "They have no reason to

that the U.S. should have a national lottery to pay the national debt.

15. Maybe George got wind of the cashier's proposal.

16. I really can't see why George has sent his troops to the Gulf. One possible explanation could run as follows: George consulted Ron who, thumping his desk furiously, asked Nancy what could be done about those goddamn Iranians.

Berlin struggles to regain role as German capital

By Andrew Gumbel
Reuter

EAST BERLIN — For 45 years of cold war, Berlin was the capital neither Germany could ever quite have.

The city's division after World War II prevented East or West from laying full claim to its metropolis's history, size and cosmopolitan feel of which were unrivaled in either Germany.

Now at last Berlin has come in from the cold. Politicians, businessmen and tourists are storming this Prussian city of nearly four million on the spree.

From October 3 it will be the official capital of a united Germany, as it was from the age of Bismarck until the demise of Hitler's Third Reich.

Again it can aspire to its 1920s reputation as the vibrant centre of Europe, described by novelist Conrad Alber's as "like alcohol, morphine, cocaine, exciting, inspiring, relaxing, deadly: a world city."

Or can it? Four decades of division cannot be erased at a stroke. East and West may cease to be political terms after unification, but Berlin will continue to look and feel like two distinct places for years.

The west's smart apartment blocks and busy boulevards look incongruous next to the shabby tenements and run-down factories of the east. There are still frustratingly few telephones and

road links, and they are over-loaded most of the time.

"The ceremonies on October 3 are just for the politicians. Unification on the ground will only get under way after that," a tourism official said. The wall may be gone, but psychological barriers persist.

Berlin is still having to fight for its right to be a full capital. The problem this time is not ideological rivalry but a small town on the Rhine.

Bonn, originally nicknamed the "federal village," has served as West German capital since 1949 on the understanding that it was merely deputising for Berlin.

Bonn's Mayor Hans Daniels told Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev as much, months before Communism collapsed in the East last year. Now, with his back to the wall, he is taking a very different line.

Daniels argues that moving the government to traditionally leftist Berlin will overcentralise Germany, erode its federal structure, and cost up to 100 billion marks (\$64 billion). Several of West Germany's powerful state premiers, fearful for their prerogatives, share his misgivings.

Conservative Bonn, which has

grown faster as capital than in any other time in its 2,000-year history, won a breathing space when the unity treaty between the two Germany's named Berlin as capital but left open where the government should sit.

Berlin accuses Daniels of parochialism and says the move would cost less than 10 billion marks (\$6 billion).

"Berlin... is the only place which equally represents both parts of Germany, east and west," the city's two mayors, Tina Schwierzina and Walter Momper, said in a joint statement.

The Brandenburg gate, long a prisoner of the Berlin wall, is once more the symbol of German unity.

Opinion polls show few West Germans feel much affection for sleepy old Bonn, a "no-company town" of 300,000. But diplomats say some foreign governments would be reassured if a resurgent, unified Germany kept its modest headquarters on the Rhine.

The dispute seems trivial compared to the global crises Berlin endured during its division. The superpowers clashed repeatedly over its status. If the cold war ever turned hot, the chances were it would do so in Berlin.

This continual tension, begun with the Soviet blockade of West Berlin in 1948 and sealed with the building of the wall 13 years later, created a claustrophobic atmosphere.

With generous subsidies, West Berlin became capitalism's ultimate showcase — an affluent enclave deep inside "enemy" territory, closer to Poland than to the West — a postwar hangover

The tumultuous changes that followed have brought further confusion as rich Western businessmen, Polish bargain hunters and Romanian beggars have moved in.

The lure of history in the making has also drawn swarms of

tourists. Hotel rooms are scarce, prices have soared, traffic chokes the streets.

Crime, including racist violence, is on the rise and the gap between rich whites and poor blacks has increased social tension and fuelled right-wing extremism.

Berlin's special qualities, so long dictated by political circumstance, are disappearing and many residents fear the city will soon be just another noisy, dirty capital.

West Berliners call it the price of freedom.



Berlin Opera House — symbol of the city's cultural and historical role in German life (File photo)

Soviet warning

(Continued from page 1)

embassy in Moscow on Soviet-made weapons used by Iraq.

Moiseyev said he was personally involved in assembling for the United States a package of information about the weapons, the Post reported.

Moiseyev has been chief of general staff since December 1988, subordinate only to Defense Minister Dmitri Yazov and President Mikhail Gorbachev.

The Post quoted him as saying the Kremlin had quietly withdrawn nuclear warheads from potential ethnic trouble spots around the country.

Moiseyev said the Soviet leadership recognised an obligation to ensure complete security over nuclear weapons.

His comments were the first Soviet confirmation of Western reports that the Kremlin had taken extra measures to safeguard the world's largest stockpile of nuclear weapons in view of internal instability.

Carter deplores approach

Former U.S. President Jimmy Carter has predicted that war is more likely to break out in the Gulf because the United States and its allies seem unwilling to negotiate with Iraq.

Speaking to a group of Atlanta businessmen, Carter said: "Chances are that a war is going to break out unless there is some wisdom and reticence in dealing with (Iraq) to let (it) withdraw from Kuwait without losing face."

But Carter said he sees no indication that the Western powers intend to enter talks with Iraq. "Our government and others involved with us do not appear to be prepared to talk, negotiate and exchange ideas."

Carter said that if "international sanctions and pressure exerted by the world community" do not convince Iraq to withdraw from Kuwait the likely outcome is "all-out attack."

"There are some voices that have suggested that Iraq should be destroyed," he said.

Carter said that he concurs with an assessment by William Crowe, the former chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, that a war with Iraq would be "a devastating catastrophe" for both sides.

U.S. pledge to Israel

Israel has been assured of a strong response from the United States if it is attacked by Iraq, two leading U.S. newspapers reported Friday.

The New York Times said in a front-page report that U.S. officials had told Israel in recent days that any Iraqi attack on the Jewish state would set off a vigorous American response.

The Washington Post, quoting diplomatic sources, said the United States had assured Israel that if it was attacked Washington would stand by its commitment to Israeli "security" and retaliate against Iraq, even if that required force.

The papers said assurances

Israelis raze homes, shops

(Continued from page 1)

were given by Secretary of State James Baker when he met Israeli Foreign Minister David Levy in New York Wednesday.

Iraq meanwhile issued a dire warning about "the coming fire," saying war in the region would extend to oil fields, Israel, Saudi Arabia and other Arab states.

The government newspaper Al Jomhoriya said "the battle areas would be multiple, and the fires would devour all oil fields, the Zionist entity and agents of America in the region."

"The invaders and their traitor stooges and Zionists who are adding oil on the fire to ensure their aggressive presence on the Arab land bear full responsibility for the coming fire," the newspaper said in an editorial.

It said Iraq, "which is standing in the forefront of the Arab Nation and the Islamic World for ousting foreign occupation forces from the sacred Arab lands and restoring the legitimate rights of the Palestinian people, is ready to offer all sacrifices that guarantee non-submission to the hegemony of American imperialism."

The Iraqi News Agency said President Saddam Hussein plans a speech Sunday, the birthday of the Prophet Mohammad.

The agency did not indicate what the message might be, but said he would address a Baghdad rally with the theme: "Holy war is the duty of all believers to purge the holy shrines of occupation."

Another Iraqi newspaper, Al Qaddisiya, accused Israel and Egypt Friday of setting up an intelligence station to pick up data on the movement of Iraqi troops (see page 2).

Iraq meanwhile assured Western diplomats in Baghdad that it was not threatening to hang them for sheltering foreigners in their missions. Western governments had seen the "threat" in a vote reminding envoys that hiding foreigners was a capital offence.

In Washington, Iraq's Ambassador Mohammad Al Mashat denied that any threats have been made against diplomats in Iraq and Kuwait.

"We're not threatening anyone," Mashat told reporters after a meeting at the State Department.

Later, U.S. officials said Mashat said he was unaware of the "warning" notes' existence.

The department released this text of the Iraqi note from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs:

"Resolution No. 341 dated 8-26-90 stipulates that housing a foreigner for the purpose of hiding him or her from the authorities is a crime of espionage. The punishment of death shall be imposed on the individual who commits such a crime."

"The ministry will appreciate it if the esteemed mission would kindly inform the ministry of whether any of its citizens or any other nation's citizens are residing in the mission's embassies and your diplomatic residences, whether or not these citizens have contracts with the government or are working with foreign companies operating in Iraq."

The ministry will appreciate it if the esteemed mission would kindly inform the ministry of whether any of its citizens or any other nation's citizens are residing in the mission's embassies and your diplomatic residences, whether or not these citizens have contracts with the government or are working with foreign companies operating in Iraq."

For the best
for you!
MONEY...
ADVERTISE
in the
Jordan Times

ARAMEX AIR CARGO

MOVING?
Let Aramex Air Cargo
take care of the works,
Door to Door.
Call the friendly
professionals on
660507 or 660508

ARAMEX

Cyprus — still divided on 30th anniversary

By Bonli Ghimis
Reuter

NICOSIA — Independent for 30 years and divided for more than half of them, Cyprus is a small island with a big problem and mixed feelings about a birthday party.

Greek Cypriots in the prospering south will celebrate with a parade on Oct. 1, stressing their government's international standing.

Turkish Cypriots on the other side of the green line will ignore the event but have chosen the same day to emphasise their ties with mainland Turkey, which invaded the North in 1974.

The 1960 arrangement was

guaranteed by Britain, which kept sovereign bases on the island, Greece and Turkey. But it was widely seen as a temporary compromise.

Turkish Cypriots are a distinct people with the right to self-determination, as Denktash insists, or an ethnic minority sharing their nationhood with the 600,000 Greek Cypriots as envisaged by the 1960 constitution.

"I don't see what we are celebrating," says Christakis Kansbas, editor of leading Greek-Cypriot newspaper Phileftferos.

But President George Vassiliou, whose government controls two-thirds island, will take the salute at a military march-past in southern Nicosia, flanked by foreign guests.

The 1960 arrangement was

reunification are stalled over

whether the 160,000 Turkish

Cypriots are a distinct people

with the right to self-determination,

as Denktash insists, or an

ethnic minority sharing their

nationhood with the 600,000

Greek Cypriots as envisaged by

the 1960 constitution.

Turkey's invasion followed a coup in Nicosia backed by the military Junta then ruling

Greece.

Most Greek Cypriots had by

then lost their pre-independence

enthusiasm for union with

Greece, but Ankara saw the coup

as a serious threat to the safety of

Turkish Cypriots.

"We got off on the wrong

foot," says Kate Clerides, daughter of veteran politician Glafcos Clerides and an aspiring politician in her own right.

"No one wanted independence

back in 1960. So we started out all

wrong. It's a paradox, because

now, we are committed to inde-

pendence, but one third of the

country is occupied," she told

Reuters.

While Vassiliou reviews the

Oct. 1, parade in the south, De-

nkash will be welcoming the

prime minister of Turkey, Yildir-

im Akbulut.

U.N.-sponsored talks about

reunification are stalled over

whether the 160,000 Turkish

Cypriots are a distinct people

with the right to self-determi-

nation,

as Denktash insists, or an

ethnic minority sharing their

nationhood with the 600,000

Greek Cypriots as envisaged by

the 1960 constitution.

"It is no minor achieve-

ment," he said.

Cyprus' only woman MP, writer Rima Kassab, a refugee from

Turkish-held Kyrenia, says of the

independence anniversary:

"I think we should be using this

opportunity to brief the world on

the continuing occupation. And we must do some serious soul-

searching."

the result of Turkey's invasion of Cyprus.

"I am optimistic, I think Cyprus will eventually be a united island. After all I never thought Germany will be united in my lifetime," said Kate Clerides.

While the island appears no closer to reunification, the Greek-Cypriot south takes comfort in economic progress, and has allowed us to apply for EC membership, a highly-placed Cypriot official told Reuters.

"This is no minor achievement," he said.

Cyprus' only woman

Chinese track monopoly broken, but hosts dominate Asian Games

PEKING (AP) — A gritty Japanese distance runner and the continent's fastest human broke China's monopoly on victory in track and field competition at the 11th Asian Games Friday.

But China has gathered 11 of 13 golds during the first two days and engineered 1-2 sweeps in eight events. It won seven of the golds Tuesday.

Defending champion and Asian record holder Talal Mansoor of Qatar reasserted his claim to the unofficial title of "Asia's fastest human" with a clear victory in the 100-metre event.

His time of 10.30 seconds equalled his games record set in Seoul four years ago.

China's Zheng Chen, once the fastest in Asia, won the silver in 10.51. Sriyana Dissanayake was third in 10.64.

In the men's 10,000 metres, Japan's Koichi Morishita kept just behind China's Zhang Guowei until the final lap, when he mustered a tremendous burst of speed and left Zhang Gasping far behind him.

Morishita sprinted across the

line in 28 minutes, 47.96 seconds while Kim Jae-Yeong of South Korea was second in 28:49.61 and Zhang settled for the bronze in 29:01.13.

Among the casualties of China's sports machine was F.T. Usha, who lost both the race and her record in the 200 metres, getting off to a poor start and finishing fourth.

Asia's track queen, who has amassed records and golds in a decade-long career, will be running in four other events here and plans to retire after the games.

China's Han Qing shaved Usha's 1986 games record of 23.44, winning the event in 23.42.

Wang Hui-Chen of Taiwan took the silver in 23.89 and China's Tian Yumei the bronze in 24.01.

None in the field came close to challenging one of Asia's longest standing track marks. Taiwan's brilliant Chi Cheng, at these games as a television anchor woman, set an Asian best of 22.62 in 1970.

Usha, while not entered, also lost her games record in the 400-metre hurdles as Chen Juying

of China won the gold in 56.05. Usha's 1986 mark had been 56.08. The silver went to Chen in 56.89 and the bronze to Elma Muros of the Philippines in 59.47.

Asian record holder Li Tong lost his race at the start, tripping over the first hurdle in the men's 110-metre event and withdrawing. He had taken time off from computer studies in the United States to attend the games.

Yin Zhicheng won that race, equaling his own games record of 13.82. Japan's Toshihiko Iwasaki took the silver in 13.91 and teammate Kimihiko Kaoeko the bronze in 14.21.

In yet another 1-2 Chinese sweep, Li Wenbo and Zheng Lijuan triumphed in the women's 800 metres, with Li setting a games record of 2:01.04. The old one stood at 2:05.69.

Zheng's time was 2:01.53 and India's Rose Kutta produced her country's first track medal with a bronze. Her time was 2:04.05.

Both of the day's field events were dominated by the Chinese. Cheng Shaobo beat his team-

Gilbert, Krickstein advance to Queensland semifinals

BRISBANE, Australia (AP) — Americans Brad Gilbert and Aaron Krickstein both scored straight set victories Friday to reach the semifinals of the \$25,000 Queensland Open Tennis Championships.

Gilbert, the top seed, defeated Australian Carl Limberger 6-2, 6-4, while second-seeded Krickstein turned back the challenge of fourth-seeded West German Eric Jelen, winning 6-2, 6-1.

Former Australian Davis Cup player John Fitzgerald, whose ranking has slipped to 217th in the world, continued his return to form with a 2-6, 6-3, 6-4 win over American Robbie Weiss.

Krickstein will play Fitzgerald in Saturday's semi, while Gilbert will face either defending champion Nicolas Kroon of Sweden or fourth-seeded West German Carl-Uwe Steeb.

Gilbert ousted Limberger after a 63-minute baseline duel in which the Australian made most of the unforced errors.

"A win is a win, but I was a little disappointed I let him back into the match when I led 5-2 in the second set," said Gilbert, who is chasing his 20th career title

this week and has won his first three matches in straight sets.

"It doesn't worry me that I haven't had a hard match," Gilbert said. "When you get put under pressure you deal with it, but it is better to win easy."

Krickstein also has been untroubled in his opening three matches and found Jelen unable to match him for either power or accuracy.

"I thought it would be a tougher match today, but I'm not concerned," he said. "I'm playing steady and hitting good shots when I need to."

Fitzgerald started slowly against Weiss — who hit a series of first set passing shots — but recovered to gain his first semifinal on the Association of Tennis Professionals Tour in 18 months.

"It's nice to be back," he said. "I can't remember the last time I won this far in the tournament, but I'm starting to make opportunities for myself again."

The 32-draw Queensland Open, which offers a first prize of \$32,400, is being played on synthetic rebound ace courts. It continues through Sunday.

HOROSCOPE

FORECAST FOR SATURDAY SEPTEMBER 29, 1990
By Thomas S. Pierson, Astrologer, Carroll Righter Foundation

GENERAL TENDENCIES: It would be wise to doublecheck whatever you plan on doing today before putting it in motion. Your creative-inventive side is showing and it is more than likely that the right person will notice.

LIRE: (September 23 to October 22) Focus upon the things you want and wind up gaining those already put in motion while tonight you can devise a practical way to have more money.

SCORPIO: (October 23 to November 22) During the day get a plan arranged whereby you can work out all phases for your advancement quietly and in the evening let experts know your goals.

SAGITTARIUS: (November 22 to December 21) Clarify just what your personal aims are and then you will be able to take them to confidantes who can make them a reality for you.

CAPRICORN: (December 22 to January 20) Put yourself in a position where those in power and authority can see your best attributes for many benefits follow, then do what your friends enjoy with you.

MOON CHILDREN: (June 22 to July 21) Add touches of charm and beauty to your home, then let your family know how much you care about them and cement bonds at

reunions.

LEO: (July 22 to August 21) Shopping for whatever articles can make life more efficient and comfortable is good during the day, then tonight relax at your residence.

VIRO: (August 22 to September 21) Think about the various assets and liabilities you have and just

what you can do to turn these so you have more to operate on the future.

LIRE: (September 23 to October 22) Focus upon the things you want and wind up gaining those already put in motion while tonight you can devise a practical way to have more money.

SCORPIO: (October 23 to November 22) During the day get a plan arranged whereby you can work out all phases for your advancement quietly and in the evening let experts know your goals.

SAGITTARIUS: (November 22 to December 21) Clarify just what your personal aims are and then you will be able to take them to confidantes who can make them a reality for you.

CAPRICORN: (December 22 to January 20) Put yourself in a position where those in power and authority can see your best attributes for many benefits follow, then do what your friends enjoy with you.

MOON CHILDREN: (June 22 to July 21) Add touches of charm and beauty to your home, then let your family know how much you care about them and cement bonds at

reunions.

LEO: (July 22 to August 21) Shopping for whatever articles can make life more efficient and comfortable is good during the day, then tonight relax at your residence.

VIRO: (August 22 to September 21) Think about the various assets and liabilities you have and just

N. Korean boxers banned from games after attack on referee

PEKING (R) — North Korea was thrown out of Asian Games boxing Friday for an attack on a referee, as its officials slammed the quality of judging and hinted at bribery.

Two North Korean coaches climbed into the ring and assaulted the referee after their fighter Ton Su-Yong lost to Iran's Iraj Kiarostami in a super-heavyweight first round bout Thursday night.

Calling the incident a disgrace, president of the Amateur International Boxing Association (AIBA) Anwar Chowdhury said a four-man boxing jury had decided to ban the whole squad.

The jury also recommended to the AIBA that it suspend the North Korean Boxing Federation from the organisation, an action it will be debated at a meeting in Sydney in November.

"The chief coach knew referee Mohammad Guznavi of Pakistan in the grot. He has been passing blood in his urine all night," said the head of the AIBA, the

world's amateur boxing federation.

He said the 12-man boxing team and its coaches and officials had been asked to leave the games village.

"Because the rules were not followed our coach became indignant and perhaps could not contain himself," said reporters.

She said the Iranian boxer had not been properly warned for dropping his mouthpiece several times during the bout so that he could take a rest.

"We asked the jury to see the videotape of the fight but they refused, saying the decision of the referee was final," the official said.

Coaches involving North Korea often become very emotional, Kang said all team members were inspired by the spirit of their president, Kim Il-Sung.

They carry the "badge of great leader Kim Il-Sung" in their hearts and only this can inspire them in their performances," Kang said.

Donnelly crashes during Spanish Grand Prix qualifying session

JEREZ, Spain (R) — British racing driver Martin Donnelly was involved in a serious accident during Friday's opening qualifying session for Sunday's Spanish Grand Prix.

His Lotus appeared to be cut in half and Donnelly was left lying on the circuit.

The crash happened near the end of the session and Donnelly was left lying on the circuit.

The crash happened near the end of the session and Donnelly was still motionless as he was carried away on a stretcher several minutes later.

Donnelly, 26, replaced Brazilian Nelson Piquet at Lotus in January — his first season in Formula One.

He recorded his best finish with seventh place in the Hungarian Grand Prix in August.

There have been two big accidents in the last two Grands Prix. Last Sunday's Portuguese round of the World Championship was curtailed when the arrows driven by Italian Alex Caffi slammed into the barriers at Estoril. He suffered ankle injuries.

In the previous race, the Italian Grand Prix at Monza, Donnelly's team mate Derek Warwick escaped uninjured after a spectacular accident in which his Lotus overturned and slid 150 metres along the track upside down.

Donnelly was taken to the circuit medical centre where it was announced that his life was not in danger.

Fusaro, making a rare visit to a circuit on the eve of Sunday's Spanish Grand Prix, held a meeting with Ferrari team Manager Cesare Fiorio, Prost and Briton Nigel Mansell.

Afterwards, he said: "What

happened last week at Estoril produced some conflict within the team. But everyone in the team is very professional and now all the positions have been clarified. They will all work together for a good result in all the last three races.

"Perhaps we have lost our first objective, the World Championship, but while we still have a small percentage of a chance to win we don't want to give up."

Last weekend at the Portuguese Grand Prix, Mansell won the race after making a poor start from pole position and accidentally baulking his team mate Prost on the grid.

Prost later blamed Mansell for the incident and, conceding he had lost his chance of retaining the world drivers' title, spoke of the team's inability to provide any racing strategy.

Prost even went so far as to say that Ferrari did not deserve to win the world championship because they were disorganized and lacked leadership, a clear reference to the Ferrari team Manager Cesare Fiorio.

Fusaro, however, said Thursday that he still had full confidence in Fiorio and that he hoped both the team manager and Prost would still be with Ferrari next year.

He said it was only natural for Prost to express his disappointment. "He is only human," said Fusaro.

Fusaro said Prost had told him he was happy to continue to fight for the championship and would battle for victory to preserve his final slim mathematical chance of the title.

Afterwards, he said: "What

THE BETTER HALF.

By Harris

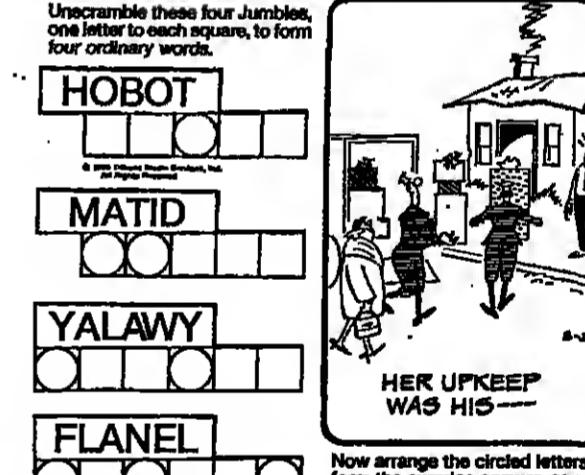
HARRIS 8-27



JUMBLE

THAT SCRABBLING WORD GAME

by Henri Arnold and Bob Lee



Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

Print answer here:

(Answers tomorrow)

Yesterday's Jumble: PROXY COWER NOZZLE PRISON

Answer: The "still" is an apparatus whose products make --- PEOPLE NOISY

6 Bangor's state

7 Helper: abbr.

8 Tear: RITER NICE

9 Artisan: STREAKS

10 Cobso: OIL

11 Aspire: UNIFORMS

12 Taut: HASTE CASE

13 Sash: FAIRY

14 Swipes: TEST EAT

15 Stired: FAIRY

16 Impoing: FAIRY

17 Pierces: FAIRY

18 Artisan: STREAKS

19 Dine: FAIRY

20 Dine: FAIRY

21 Dine: FAIRY

22 Dine: FAIRY

23 Dine: FAIRY

24 Dine: FAIRY

25 Dine: FAIRY

26 Dine: FAIRY

27 Dine: FAIRY

28 Dine: FAIRY

29 Dine: FAIRY

30 Dine: FAIRY

31 Dine: FAIRY

32 Dine: FAIRY

33 Dine: FAIRY

Finance ministers say world able to withstand Gulf crisis

WASHINGTON (AP) — Finance ministers have concluded their annual meetings with assurances that the global economy can weather the impact of the Gulf crisis with sensible strategies and a little help from friends.

One of those policies is to pass along oil price increases to consumers, said Michel Camdessus, director of the International Monetary Fund (IMF).

The impact of Iraq's Aug. 2 invasion of oil-rich Kuwait and the consequent rise in oil prices dominated weekend sessions of the IMF and the World Bank, which ended Thursday.

Officials of both lending organizations expressed worries about the possibility of a global recession connected with the crisis.

Oil prices hovered around \$40 a barrel Thursday, even though U.S. President George Bush announced release of five million barrels from the United States' strategic reserves a day earlier.

Meanwhile, the World Bank signalled it may lack sufficient resources to handle the economic shocks of the crisis, including oil price hikes, displaced workers, and loss of exports for some countries.

Both institutions pledged help for countries suffering the brunt of the economic impact, but support figures have yet to be worked out. Some officials stayed behind to discuss specifics of a multi-billion-dollar effort under

the leadership of the U.S. treasury.

"Countries will suffer from the Gulf crisis, but this is manageable as long as (debtors) nations follow good policies and the international support matches the efforts of the countries themselves," Camdessus said Thursday.

'Cloudy' prospects

While opening the annual meetings, Camdessus had described world prospects as "cloudy." At the close, he said, "there is a silver lining."

Camdessus said the consensus of finance ministers is "that the challenge demands a firm policy response from all members, and the widespread acceptance of the view that oil price increases should be passed through to consumers."

'Front-line' states

Camdessus also said the leaders agreed on a collective responsibility to assist the "front-line" states of Turkey, Egypt and Jordan in the Gulf crisis as well as countries that were hard hit developing countries.

A World Bank report listed Morocco, Bangladesh, India, Pakistan, the Philippines, Sri Lanka and Sudan as other countries that would be seriously affected by abiding by an international trade embargo against Iraq.

World Bank President Barber

Conable said that if oil prices remain high over the next three months, the bank likely would not have sufficient resources to cushion the impact on developing countries.

Conable said he then would seek approval from the countries that make up the bank's board of directors to establish a special fund for voluntary contributions from oil-rich nations and others.

The money would be used to provide no-interest loans to needy nations.

"If the price of oil stays up and there continues to be turmoil and uncertainty and an impact on the global economy, clearly it will have a major impact on significant parts of the developing world," Conable said.

His comments, made at a news conference Thursday, represented a departure from an earlier stance that the World Bank did not need to create programmes and could handle the crisis with existing resources.

Finance ministers from 154 member nations attended the IMF-World Bank meetings, in addition to a delegation from the Soviet Union, the only major power without membership in the sister institutions.

Both Camdessus and Conable said they held discussions with the visiting Soviets but indicated that it would be some time before the Soviet Union would qualify for membership.

Five million barrels would not affect prices

Bush's decision to tap reserves raises questions

NEW YORK (R) — President George Bush's decision to sell five million barrels to oil out of America's strategic reserves was seen as a shot across the bow of the oil markets and analysts doubted Thursday it would have much impact on prices any time soon.

The move to dip into the 590 million-barrel strategic petroleum reserve (SPR) was announced late Wednesday in a bid to slow soaring oil prices, but was viewed as a token gesture aimed at warning that the economy cannot withstand oil prices at current levels.

Five million barrels of oil represent only about a third of the petroleum processed in a single day in U.S. refineries and is less than a third of the 17 million barrels consumed in the United States every day.

Thursday's oil markets largely ignored the announcement with prices continuing to soar on the New York mercantile exchange. Crude oil for November delivery hit \$40.10 a

barrel in early trading, the highest in 10 years.

The market remained fearful that war would break out soon in the Middle East.

In Washington, Energy Secretary James Watkins Thursday asked Congress for permission to test the SPR by drawing down the oil at a rate of up to 500,000 barrels a day.

"Washington is sending a message to the market," said Richard Marose, analyst at Prudential-Bache, but George Friesen, oil analyst at Deutsche Bank Group, added that "to have a significant impact on the market, something more than a token is required."

Oil prices have nearly doubled since Iraq seized Kuwait Aug. 2, lifting retail petrol prices by an average \$0.235 to \$1.31 a gallon, according to a recent American automobile association survey.

The move by Bush marks the first time the emergency reserves have been tapped since it was established in 1975,

two years after the Arab oil embargo. The SPR holds its reserves in Texas and Louisiana salt caverns.

Analysts said Bush was unlikely to order a full scale withdrawal of the reserve without assurances other nations would dip into their own stockpiles.

"If we were to use the SPR in a sustained way it would only be in coordination with other members of the Paris-based International Energy Agency (IEA), said Cambridge Energy Research Associates' President Daniel Yergin.

The IEA's governing board of 21 oil importing nations met in Paris Friday to discuss whether members should tap their respective stockpiles to counter soaring world oil prices.

So far, officials from Britain, Germany and Japan have said they have no plans to sell oil from their government reserves

99 days of oil stocks.

He projected a price of \$32 to \$35 a barrel if stocks were reduced to 96 days, and \$21 to \$22 a barrel if stocks were reduced to 90 days.

The International Energy Agency (IEA) in Paris requires its member countries and their oil companies to keep a minimum of 90 days of stocks.

The former Saudi minister, who left office in late 1986, said in case of a prolonged crisis with no effort by oil companies and governments to reduce stocks, prices would go up to \$60 a barrel.

Saudi Arabia is producing about 7.5 million barrels a day and "probably could produce about 7.7 million," he said.

If oil companies would draw on their stocks "we can reduce the price," Yamani stressed.

Buying spree

Yamani said there was no economic reason whatsoever for a buying and stocking spree and consequent rise in prices.

The former Saudi official, who founded and heads the London-based Centre for Global Energy Studies, said his centre estimated the world had

99 days of oil stocks.

He projected a price of \$32 to \$35 a barrel if stocks were reduced to 96 days, and \$21 to \$22 a barrel if stocks were reduced to 90 days.

The International Energy Agency (IEA) in Paris requires its member countries and their oil companies to keep a minimum of 90 days of stocks.

The compromise, if worked

AMMAN EXCHANGE RATES

Thursday, September 27, 1990	
Central Bank official rates	
Buy	Sell
U.S. dollar	656.0 660.0
Pound Sterling	1226.8 1234.2
Deutschmark	418.5 421.0
Swiss franc	502.9 505.9
French franc	125.0 125.8
Japanese yen (for 100)	477.4 480.3
Dutch guilder	371.2 373.4
Swedish krona	113.8 114.5
Italian lira (for 100)	36.0 36.3
Belgian franc (for 10)	203.3 204.5

Drive carefully!

Traffic can be

hazardous

TODAY

RAINBOW Tel: 625155
Cinema
LICENCE TO KILL
Performances: 3:30, 6:30, 8:30 p.m.

CONCORD Tel: 677420
Cinema
Dured Lahem
Madeline Tabar
In
1-KAFROUN
3:30, 6:45, 8:45 | 10:45 P.M.
2-MONEY MANIA
5:15, p.m.

NIJOUN Tel: 675571
Cinema
Fuad Al Muhandes,
Mohammed Subhi,
Ibrahim Shahin
In
ADOLESCENCE
SITUATION
(Arabic)
Performances: 12:30, 3:30, 6:30, 8:30, 10:30 p.m.
Friday & Sunday extra show at 11:00 a.m.

PHILADELPHIA Tel: 634144
Cinema
Mahmoud Abdul Aziz &
Measli Zayed ...
In
LADIES AND
MADEMOISELLES
(Arabic)
Performances: 3:30, 6:15, 8:30, 10:30 p.m.

PLAZA Tel: 699238
Cinema
Mahmoud Abdul Aziz -
Measli Zayed
In
LADIES AND
MADEMOISELLES
(Arabic)
Performances: 12:30, 3:30, 6:30, 8:30, 10:30 p.m.

West unlikely to tap strategic oil reserves

Energy agency seeks emergency response to counter oil shortage

PARIS (Agencies) — The International Energy Agency (IEA) opened one of its most important meetings ever Friday, seeking to clear the way for a quick emergency response in the event of a serious oil shortage.

During a lunched break, members of the British delegation said the governing board was not planning to call for the release of strategic petroleum stocks.

The agency represents 21 industrialized countries, including the United States, which this week decided to tap its strategic petroleum reserves for the first time by selling five million barrels of oil from its reserves.

The Britons said no other IEA country currently plans to take similar action.

The delegates said early stages of the meeting focused on ways to improve the agency's response mechanisms. They said these measures may vary from country to country depending on the level of strategic stocks available to each.

Most official Western oil stocks are held by the United States, Japan and West Germany.

One IEA official said Thursday that the agency, created in 1973, wanted to "clear the decks" of regulatory and logistical obstacles

that would impede an effective response to a severe oil shortage.

The OPEC (Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries) countries have eaten up their surplus capacity, so now there's no cushion if things get worse," said the official, speaking on condition of not being identified.

U.S. President George Bush Wednesday ordered the sale of five million barrels of oil from the nation's strategic reserve, which contains 590 million barrels.

Bush administration officials said the move was a test to see if the system could work in an emergency. But observers here considered it likely the Americans would press for similar action from other IEA members, particularly West Germany, with 97 million barrels of reserves, and Japan with 245 million barrels.

"We don't see the urgency of pressing them so hard right now," U.S. Energy Secretary James Watkins said Thursday. "Worldwide stocks right now are above the norm."

European community officials were meeting to discuss their view.

West Germany and Japan, two major oil importers, have also said they opposed an immediate

drawdown of the estimated 1.7 billion barrels of oil that governments and companies hold.

At its last meeting Aug. 28, the IEA said the supply situation remained manageable, and the agency official said it hasn't changed considerably since August.

Spot benchmark Brent blend oil was quoted near 10-year highs at \$41.25 a barrel at midday in Europe Friday as traders scrambled to lock in supplies now in case war breaks out in the Gulf. They fear war could damage oil installations there.

Prices have more than doubled since Iraq invaded Kuwait Aug. 2, despite the fact that output from the two countries, banned from world markets by a United Nations trade embargo, has been largely offset by extra oil from other major producers.

President Bush, worried that dearer oil could push the teetering American economy into a recession, expressed anger this week over the jump in prices, saying there was no justification for the intensive speculation in oil.

However, the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD) said governments must urgently reduce oil price instability by using

strategic reserves and an agreement between producers and consumers to beat speculation.

"It is indispensable for governments to take an important role in shaping market psychology," Shahen Ahrabian, head of international monetary issues at UNCTAD told Reuters in a telephone interview. "It would be unpardonable for governments to sit back and let speculation cause chaos."

In a paper to be presented to the UNCTAD Trade and Development Board next week, the agency said oil price volatility must be reduced in order to curb instability in the financial markets.

Sheikh Ahmed Zaki Yamani, the former Saudi Arabian oil minister, and one-time chief OPEC strategist, said high oil prices were due to the failure of leading oil companies and Western countries to use reserves.

"If oil companies were to de-stock and draw from their inventories, we could reduce the price of oil," the British newspaper Financial Times quoted him as saying.

He said the tapping of strategic reserves by governments would be ineffective unless oil companies cut stocks.

Washington tries to control dispersal of funds

U.S., Japan clash over channelling of funds for front-line countries

WASHINGTON (R) — The United States and Japan clashed over how to channel money to countries hardest hit by the Gulf crisis at the first meeting of a group of donor nations, international monetary sources said.

Washington, eager to retain as much control as possible over international efforts to help such countries as Egypt, Turkey and Jordan, wants to set up a pool of funds it would manage for that purpose.

Tokyo is resisting, worried about being left open to U.S. pressure to provide more and more funds, and wants the World Bank to play a leading role, the sources said.

President George Bush announced Tuesday the formation of a task force to channel funds to the front-line states that encircle Iraq and to other countries suffering badly from the financial fallout of the Gulf crisis.

Washington and Tokyo were divided at the first meeting of the group Wednesday but agreed to try to thrash out their differences quickly.

The compromise, if worked

out, would set up a U.S.-led donor group to provide emergency aid quickly and also create separate World Bank-led groups that would coordinate mid-term aid policy for individual countries, the sources said.

"Japan wanted to set up such an international aid group on a country-by-country basis because situations differ widely from one nation to another," one source said.

A group of 16 donors, including major industrial nations and oil-rich Gulf states, discussed ways of channelling funds to nations hardest hit by the economic fallout of the Gulf crisis triggered by Iraq's Aug. 2 invasion of Kuwait. They did not decide how much money might be needed at their first meeting Wednesday.

Tokyo pledged earlier this month that it will provide \$2 billion to the front-line states and other nations hit hardest by the crisis.

It said \$600 million of that will be made available immediately to Egypt, Jordan and Turkey on a bilateral basis, but it will decide when and how the remaining \$1.4

billion will be provided after consulting with the World Bank and International Monetary Fund.

The United States disliked the

Japanese proposal because it hopes to maintain as much control as possible over any multilateral aid fund.

Japanese proposal because it hopes to maintain as much control as possible over any multilateral aid fund.

Japanese proposal because it hopes to maintain as much control as possible over any multilateral aid fund.

Russian democratic group plots to seize power, Pravda says

MOSCOW (AP) — The Communist Party daily Pravda Friday condemned what it said to be a democratic group's plot to seize power, and radical politicians feared the article could foreshadow a government crackdown.

Pravda said a group called the "Russian Democratic Forum" drafted a "programme for action-90" that seeks "the elimination of the CPSU from the political arena, the breakup of its ranks and nationalisation of its property." CPSU is an abbreviation for the Communist Party of the Soviet Union.

The report added to a series of rumours that began with talk that the Soviet military was plotting to seize power. The rumours then shifted to the theory — officially denied — that the military would move against democratic forces allegedly plotting to take over strategic points such as power stations, television offices and railway terminals.

The rumours have surfaced in an atmosphere of confusion in the Soviet political scene, frequent protests and increasingly hard economies.

President Mikhail Gorbachev referred to the troubled times Friday in a Kremlin meeting with

Jack Weits, president of General Electric.

"It really is an exciting time, so exciting that people are completely confused. We must be excited to galvanise the whole country or we will not get out of this vicious circle. ... The command system has almost completely fallen apart," Gorbachev said.

In the Pravda article — appearing on the front page and titled, "What 'Democrats' Are Preparing" — historian Y. Makhrin says the "programme for action-90" is "destructive, permeated by a spirit of intolerance and lack of acceptance of those unsuitable to its authors." He calls for a legal study of the document because of its calls a violent overthrow of the state.

Little is known about the "Russian Democratic Forum," which supposedly drafted the plan in July. The Moscow newspaper *Leninskoye Znamya* said Friday it was formed by some members of the Russian People's Front, a grassroots political movement.

Other democratic leaders distanced themselves from the group at a news conference Friday.

"We want to act strictly within the framework of the law and observance of law and order," the Inter-Regional Deputies Group and the Democratic Russia Parliamentary Opposition Group said in a joint statement released at the news conference.

Pravda underscored its concern for the alleged threats with a second article about possible trouble in the Ukraine. It said "forces that call themselves 'democratic' are getting ready for a coup."

"They all have their own programme, their own aims but they are united by their anti-Communist direction, their desire to do away with the CPSU — the only obstacle on their way to their often adventurous goals," Pravda said in an article from Kiev, the Ukrainian capital.

Gorbachev is now armed with new powers he can use to snuff disruptive forces. On Monday, the Supreme Soviet legislature gave him the authority to issue decrees to rescue the collapsing Soviet economy and ensure law and order.

He issued his first directive Thursday, ordering businesses nationwide to fulfil supply contracts and the government to ensure distribution.

groups said such actions would "play into the hand of those who would like to find some kind of plot, to have a pretext to introduce a state of emergency in the country and devastate democratic forces."

Pravda underscored its concern for the alleged threats with a second article about possible trouble in the Ukraine. It said "forces that call themselves 'democratic' are getting ready for a coup."

"They all have their own programme, their own aims but they are united by their anti-Communist direction, their desire to do away with the CPSU — the only obstacle on their way to their often adventurous goals," Pravda said in an article from Kiev, the Ukrainian capital.

Gorbachev is now armed with new powers he can use to snuff disruptive forces. On Monday, the Supreme Soviet legislature gave him the authority to issue decrees to rescue the collapsing Soviet economy and ensure law and order.

He issued his first directive Thursday, ordering businesses nationwide to fulfil supply contracts and the government to ensure distribution.



Millions of street children around the world struggle to earn a meager living.

Meeting on children casts spotlight on bleak lives

MEXICO CITY (R) — World leaders at the United Nations this weekend discuss the plight of needy children like eight-year-old Miguel who ekes out an existence on a busy Mexico City street corner by washing cars and jingling.

Miguel epitomises the fate of millions of youngsters throughout the Third World, under focus at the U.N.'s first world summit for children in New York.

Seven days a week, homeless Miguel washes windshields by day then dances himself in greasepaint to juggle at night before collapsing on a pavement to sleep.

He lives a hand-to-mouth existence, earning just enough to feed himself although he always goes to sleep hungry. He said he never thinks about the future.

"It's hard and sometimes very cold, but I'm usually so tired I sleep pretty well," he said in an interview.

According to statistics from the United Nations Emergency Children's Fund (UNICEF) at least 40,000 children around the world die for lack of medicines that cost only a few pennies per child.

Like Miguel, every day 150 million children under the age of five go to bed hungry with little hope of a better tomorrow.

Mexican President Carlos Salinas de Gortari, who will address the opening session Sunday, has referred repeatedly to his concern about Mexico's needy children and pledged to eradicate extreme poverty.

But critics say free-market policies favoured by the International Monetary Fund (IMF) in Mexico and other Third World nations struggling to strengthen their economies have contributed to the plight of the poor and forced children like Miguel to live on the streets.

"It's a farce. We're either with the IMF or we're with the kids. We have to break the circle of poverty and the policies of the IMF," Barcena said, calling for an increase in spending on social programmes.

Leaders at the summit are expected to ratify an accord on children's rights, but social workers said there was little hope of a quick solution to the suffering of millions of children currently living homeless and in poverty.

16 jailed for life over Aquino murder

MANILA (R) — A Philippine court on Friday found an air force general and 15 other soldiers guilty of the 1983 murder of politician Benigno Aquino, husband of President Corazon Aquino, and President Corazon Aquino, and President Corazon Aquino.

The northwestern republics of Croatia and Slovenia dumped Communist rule in free elections last spring and Macedonia and Bosnia-Herzegovina are scheduled to hold elections in November.

Texts of the constitution were not immediately available but it was expected to lay the ground for multi-party elections in Serbia, where opposition parties have staged several big anti-Communist demonstrations this year.

Yugoslavia's Tanjug news agency said the constitution defined Serbia as a democratic republic, pledging the equality of all people's rights. It dropped the word Socialist and other ideological attributes.

It strengthened the powers of the republic's president, placing the leadership with one person rather than the current collective presidency.

The constitution pledges loyalty to the federal Yugoslav state but contains a provision that Serbia can "turn its back" on the federation if the republic was threatened, Tanjug said.

The clause would appear to allow Serbia to secede from the rest of Yugoslavia.

Several thousand Serbs have erected barricades around a town in the Republic of Croatia to demand greater ethnic rights, Zagreb Radio reported Friday.

The radio said the Serbs, a minority ethnic group in Croatia, used rocks and trees to block roads around the town of Petrinja, about 70 kilometres east of the republic's capital Zagreb.

The radio said the Serbs, a minority ethnic group in Croatia, used rocks and trees to block roads around the town of Petrinja, about 70 kilometres east of the republic's capital Zagreb.

The conference, which continues through Saturday, is sponsored by the Morehouse School of Medicine, where Sullivan

served as president, and the government's research centres in minority institutions.

Mann cited projections saying at least 8 million people worldwide are infected with HIV, the virus that causes AIDS. That includes an estimated 5 million infected people in Africa and 2 million in the Americas. U.S. health officials estimate that 1 million people are infected in the United States.

U.S. Health and Human Services Secretary Louis Sullivan again defended the government's AIDS programme. "We are doing a lot more than most realise, and much more than any other nation," he said.

"There is clearly going to be a wave that makes the experience of the '80s look relatively small — at least a 10-fold increase."

A comparatively low 600,000 people worldwide actually developed AIDS in the 1980s, Mann said.

"We are just beginning to experience what this pandemic will bring," Mann said. "A pandemic is an epidemic over a large region."

"There is clearly going to be a wave that makes the experience of the '80s look relatively small — at least a 10-fold increase."

Burmese troops raid foreign embassies

BANGKOK (AP) — Burmese military government sent troops into the compounds of the U.S., West German and British embassies and detained Burmese employees for interrogation, a diplomat said.

Troops entered the West German embassy compound 10 days ago and have taken similar action against the U.S. and British embassies a number of times previously.

The diplomat, who spoke at a news conference in Bangkok on condition he not be identified further, did not say why the troops had entered the embassies or where most of the employees were arrested.

He also reported that arrests and intimidation of dissidents was widespread and worsened significantly over the past month.

"The situation on the human rights front is abysmal," the diplomat said.

He added that an oral protest over the embassy raids and human rights abuses was jointly presented to the government last Friday by the 12 members of the European Community, plus Australia, Japan, New Zealand, Sweden and the United States.

The protest, delivered by Italian Ambassador Giorgio Bosco, was to make clear that the countries did not accept the military junta "as the legitimate government ... (and) that we are not simply going to look at the Middle East crisis and forget about Burma," the diplomat said.

They said Burmese employees of the U.S., British and Australian embassies had been detained for questioning, some for several days.

One employee was taken from home by military intelligence officers, held in jail for four days and questioned about the embassy's view of Burmese politics, he said.

The employee reported being held in the cell next door to Kyi Maung, the 72-year-old acting leader of the National League for Democracy. Kyi Maung was arrested this month for allegedly breaking the official secret act.

Arrested with Kyi Maung were his deputy Chit Khaing and four senior party members in the central city of Mandalay. Aung San Suu Kyi and Tin Oo, the party's two main leaders, have been detained since July 1989.

In Washington, State Department spokesman Richard Boucher said the United States strongly protested the detentions to Burmese officials in Washington and Rangoon.

"We regard such harassment as a serious contravention of international law," he said.

Boucher said Burmese officials detained and interrogated four Burmese employees of the U.S. embassy about embassy operations and personnel. He gave no further details.

COLUMN

Carter, Genscher to receive Onassis Awards

ATHENS (AP) — Former U.S. President Jimmy Carter and West German Foreign Minister Hans-Dietrich Genscher were named as recipients of the 1990 Onassis Foundation Awards for their contributions to man and society. Two other awards go to Greenpeace International and prominent Cypriot archaeologist Professor Vassos Karagiorgis.

The awards were announced by Ioannis Georgakis, president of the Lichtenstein-based Onassis Foundation set up under the will of the late Greek shipping magnate Aristotle Onassis. The foundation honours the memory of Onassis, 23-year-old son Alexander killed in an airplane crash at Athens airport in 1973. Georgakis said Carter was chosen to receive the Aristoteles Prize because of his "personal involvement and valuable contribution in bringing international disputes into the realm of international peacekeeping efforts and for establishing the 'Carter centre' to support education, human rights and humanitarian activities that seek to ameliorate the effects of hunger and disease mainly in the developing world."

Genscher was jointly presented to the government last Friday by the 12 members of the European Community, plus Australia, Japan, New Zealand, Sweden and the United States.

The protest, delivered by Italian Ambassador Giorgio Bosco, was to make clear that the countries did not accept the military junta "as the legitimate government ... (and) that we are not simply going to look at the Middle East crisis and forget about Burma," the diplomat said.

They said Burmese employees of the U.S., British and Australian embassies had been detained for questioning, some for several days.

One employee was taken from home by military intelligence officers, held in jail for four days and questioned about the embassy's view of Burmese politics, he said.

The employee reported being held in the cell next door to Kyi Maung, the 72-year-old acting leader of the National League for Democracy. Kyi Maung was arrested this month for allegedly breaking the official secret act.

Arrested with Kyi Maung were his deputy Chit Khaing and four senior party members in the central city of Mandalay. Aung San Suu Kyi and Tin Oo, the party's two main leaders, have been detained since July 1989.

In Washington, State Department spokesman Richard Boucher said the United States strongly protested the detentions to Burmese officials in Washington and Rangoon.

"We regard such harassment as a serious contravention of international law," he said.

Boucher said Burmese officials detained and interrogated four Burmese employees of the U.S. embassy about embassy operations and personnel. He gave no further details.

2 10-year-olds set record in Alcatraz swim

SAN FRANCISCO (AP) — Two strong 10-year-olds have become the youngest to make the 1.5-mile (2.4-kilometre) swim from Alcatraz Island to the city. Pat Reid completed the swim in 62 degrees Fahrenheit. (16.7-degree Celsius) water in just under an hour Monday to break the "youngest swimmer" title set in 1965 by John Hunter, then 14.

Pat was greeted by 73-year-old George Farnsworth, the oldest swimmer to challenge the treacherous Alcatraz current: "You finished strong," he said. "You broke an hour. Your legs all right?" "Oh yeah," Pat said. "They're in good shape." Eighteen minutes later, he was joined by Emma Maccharin-Mankin, who last year became the youngest swimmer to cross the Golden Gate. Both youngsters were accompanied by their fathers, who matched them stroke for stroke, and by escort boats.

No home for Chernenko's bust

MOSCOW (AP) — Officials in the Siberian city of Krasnoyarsk want a bust of former Soviet leader Konstantin Chernenko removed from a city square, but they can find no takers, a newspaper reported.

The likeness of the predecessor to Mikhail Gorbachev was created in the city about 3,250 kilometres east of Moscow after Chernenko was awarded his third "hero of Socialist labour" title, the *Trud* newspaper reported.

But the Krasnoyarsk City Council decided to dismantle the bronze bust, saying that "established procedure" calls for such monuments to be erected in the recipient's birthplace, *Trud* said. That would be quite impossible in Chernenko's case, *Trud* noted, since the village of Bolshaya Tes, where he was born, is now underwater because of a dam built for the Krasnoyarsk hydroelectric power plant. The residents of the town of Sharypovo, about 220 kilometres west of Krasnoyarsk, don't want the bust either, *Trud* said.

Until recently, Sharypovo was named for Chernenko, but it was since given its old name back. The Krasnoyarsk City Council decided to put the bust in a cultural museum, but can't move it there until Kremlin authorities rescind the decision that placed it in the square in the first place.

AIDS — the worst is yet to come

ATLANTA (AP) — The AIDS crisis is getting worse and not better, with an estimated 8 million people worldwide now infected, international AIDS experts and American's top health officials have said.

"This is still a very new pandemic," said Dr. Jonathan Mann, director of the International AIDS Centre at Harvard University, speaking to a worldwide AIDS symposium in Atlanta.

"The worst is yet to come."

U.S. Health and Human Services Secretary Louis Sullivan again defended the government's AIDS programme. "We are doing a lot more than most realise, and much more than any other nation," he said.

"We are just beginning to experience what this pandemic will bring," Mann said. "A pandemic is an epidemic over a large region."

"There is clearly going to be a wave that makes the experience of the '80s look relatively small — at least a 10-fold increase."

AVIS

SPECIAL PRICE FROM AVIS

AVIS Rent A Car offers you the following:

— V.W. Golf, Nissan Sunny JD 15,- per day

— Nissan Sunny A.C. JD 20,- per day

— Volvo 440/460 JD 25,- per day

— Nissan 4x4 JD 30,- per day

Price including:

• Unlimited free km, • Comprehensive insurance

Call Tel: (03500) Amman.